

neurasthenia are the most common; of the local, pre-existing inflammations of the pleura or peritoneum are the most frequent; of those acting reflexly, diseases of the organs of digestion and generation make up a large number. Alcoholism also constitutes a large proportion. The attacks vary very much; they may be continuous or intermittent and in some considerable exhaustion follows. The outcome of any given attack depends upon the gravity of the exciting cause. The list of remedies proposed is legion, but in all cases rational treatment must be directed to the cause, and if this cannot be discovered, measures which have an improving effect upon the whole economy are to be advised.—*Albany Medical Annals*, 1902, No. 9, p. 471.

**Xeroform in Gastric Ulcer.**—DR. DIENINGER has noted the rapid healing which is seen in all wounds of the skin when treated with xeroform. This has led him to try the drug in a marked case of gastric ulcer presenting all the typical symptoms, especially since it is known to rapidly and effectively coat all surfaces deprived of their epithelium. Four times daily seven grains were given in a wafer, and at the same time an ice-bag placed over the epigastrium and nutrition kept up by means of enemata. Very soon the tenderness disappeared, vomiting ceased, and the general condition improved from day to day, so that the author makes use of the highest words of praise.—*Allg. medicinische Central Zeitung*, 1902, No. 61, S. 719.

**Anusol in the Treatment of Hemorrhoids.**—DR. JOHN MOIR remarks that in the case of patients suffering from piles, whether newly formed or chronic in character, whether small or large, even up to large venous knots hanging from the rectum and at times bleeding profusely, the medical man has found himself, as a rule, much handicapped in their treatment, owing to the want of any thoroughly reliable method to satisfy the exigencies of the patient. The entire question of the treatment of hemorrhoids can now, however, be summed up in one sentence: Procure regular passage from the bowels. This object can be thoroughly obtained by the regular, systematic use of anusol suppositories. In the event of a threatened relapse, the further use of two or three suppositories will be indicated.—*The Therapist*, 1902, vol. xli. p. 103.

**Value of Sulphur Baths.**—DR. KARL ULLMANN emphasizes the value of sulphur baths in two conditions: Superficial diseases of the skin, and deeper, chronic affections of the fasciæ, joints, and muscles. Plain baths, no doubt, have an equally sedative action; yet experience has shown that syphilitics improve more rapidly if they take their inundations at a watering-place where sulphur baths abound than at home or in localities where the water is indifferent or contains iodine. It seems as if the suspended sulphur or the sulphuretted hydrogen creates a tolerance in the skin which increases absorption and prevents the development of furunculosis. At all events it is a well-known fact that baths can be kept up much longer in sulphur than in other waters. It has been urged from many sides that sulphur and mercury are really incompatible since leading to the formation of insoluble sulphide of mercury, but it has since then been shown that if this were to be rubbed into the skin, it could produce pyralism as well as the ordinary ointment.

Much has been said in favor of sulphur wafers taken internally, and they could here be well dispensed with.—*Centralblatt für die gesamte Therapie*, 1902, Heft. vii. S. 385.

**Yeast as a Remedy.**—DR. HEINRICH PASCHKE has carefully examined the action of yeast in fermentation, and states that it is hard to understand how it acts deleteriously upon the coecum which underlies the disease. There is certainly no direct action of the plant cells, nor can the minute quantities of alcohol formed be held responsible, and it seems as if by the presence of yeast abnormal processes in the alimentary canal are corrected and a cure thus brought about. Other conditions for which yeast is employed are antritis, maxillary adenitis, phlegmonous aene, and certain cases of syphilis. After-effects are acid eructations and diarrhoea. Certain writers have seen good effects in diabetes and diseases of the pancreas. The proper dose is seventy-five to one hundred and fifty grains daily in one to three doses with the chief meals. The different preparations vary considerably in strength.—*Wiener klinische Wochenschrift*, 1902, No. 31, S. 791.

## PEDIATRICS.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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**The Management of Infectious Diseases in Paris.**—RUHRAH (*Pediatrics*, June 15, 1902, p. 449) reviews briefly the interesting investigations of Graucher concerning the transmission of infectious diseases as observed in his wards at the Hôpital des Enfants Malades.

Reasoning that antiseptics with isolation of the patient should give the best results in preventing the transmission of infectious diseases, Graucher began experimenting about 1888, and has finally evolved a system of hospital control that should be carefully studied by all those concerned in the management of hospitals for infectious diseases.

The leading principles of Graucher's system are contained in this dictum: Air infection does not exist where the patient does not expectorate and where dust is suppressed; on the contrary, infection is by infected objects—that is to say, by contact, direct and indirect. In order to avoid infections it is necessary to purify immediately the hands and objects soiled by contact necessary in the examination and care of the patient, and, secondly, to diminish contact with children with infectious diseases and with those supposed to be infected.