

THERAPEUTICS.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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Results of Radiotherapy in Leukæmia.—DR. FRIED has treated two cases of leukæmia by this means and has produced a considerable improvement in both. The patients were forty-six and fifty-nine years of age. Under the x-ray the white blood cells, which had been 62,000 in one case and 132,000 in the other, became normal or nearly so. The red cells and hæmoglobin were increased. The spleen diminished in size. The general condition improved, and in one case the weight was increased. These results were obtained in a short time and were such as no other treatment has been able to give. There were no unpleasant after-effects worthy of notice.—*Münchener medizinische Wochenschrift*, 1904, No. 40, p. 1772.

The Serum Therapy of Typhoid Fever.—PROF. CHANTEMESSE gives as the mortality in typhoid fever treated by his serum 4 per cent. The statistics are from 523 cases observed from April 1, 1901, to October 26, 1904. He has collected the statistics of 2618 cases treated at various hospitals in Paris, and finds the mortality to be 18 per cent. He replies to the statement made by some, that his good results are due rather to hydrotherapy than to the serum, by the assertion that where baths alone are used, the statistics show a mortality of 18 per cent. In 1902 he stated that serum therapy in connection with proper bath treatment should reduce the mortality from typhoid fever to 4 per cent. or 5 per cent., and, in the light of the results obtained since that time, he sees no reason to change his opinion. The serum employed is obtained from horses immunized by injections of a soluble typhoid toxin. Under the administration of the serum he considers that the liability to intestinal perforation is diminished from 2.6 per cent. to 1.6 per cent., and he has never observed perforation in a case injected before the seventh day of the disease. An interesting fact in connection with the serum treatment is that the agent should be given in smaller doses to the severe cases than to those of the ordinary type.—*La presse médicale*, 1904, No. 86, p. 681.

Cryogenin and Typhoid Fever.—DR. BOUTTEVILLE (*Thèse de Paris*, 1904) believes that the bath treatment is the method of choice, but if the baths are contraindicated or ineffective, we may have recourse to antipyretics. The author gives the results of a series of cases in which cryogenin was used. The drug was administered as follows: 15 grains on the first day, 9 grains on the second, 6 grains on the third, then from 3 to 6