

From the other side he relates cases in which few tubercular bacilli were found, and the course, the issue, and the symptoms were such as to exclude the tubercular nature of the disease. He recollects Knight's and Sharp's opinions on the subject, and mentions some studies he began since 1892 on the argument of the presence of tubercular bacilli in healthy subjects, and which remained sterile. He then insists upon the necessity of an accord among the bacteriological researches, the organic impairment, and the clinical form for a right diagnosis.

Treatment.—Cases of complete recovery are reported with simple tracheotomy, curettement, or simple application of the phenol sulpho-ricinate proposed by Kuault, of Paris. Causes have modified the first opinion of the author in regard to laryngeal phthisis. He relates the late opinion of Heinyng, reported in this journal; but as regards promises and indications, the author is of opinion that we do not know the circumstances which allow us to assist to a cure. He does not deny the possibility of a complete recovery; he cannot give exact indications for foreseeing the issue of this terrible disease.

But in general a narrowing of the larynx without serious lung impairment and general good health, let us hope much in tracheotomy, as the polypoid form and the chondritis seem to be the most accessible to a local treatment.

An early interference, besides, also assists in a probable success; hence the necessity of an early diagnosis and the interest of the few remarks above made, and the necessity of help to the diagnosis, not only with bacteriological researches, but even with microscopic examination of small pieces removed, and inoculation in animals, if necessary.

Maschl.

THYROID, &c.

Finlayson.—*A Cretin under Thyroid Treatment.* "Glasgow Med. Journ.," May, 1896.

THIS is the further history of a child already described by Finlayson and referred to in the JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY, May, 1896. Since October, 1893, the child had received thyroid treatment in hospital during four periods, amounting in all to nine months; the other seventeen or eighteen months the child had been at home and receiving no treatment. The total result was great improvement as regards growth, power of walking and of speech, appearance, condition of hair, mental condition, etc., etc. But it was noted that during residence in hospital improvement was marked and rapid, while during the intervals there was a certain amount of retrogression.

Arthur J. Hutchison.

Hodge, G.—*Myxœdema.* "American Medico-Surg. Bulletin," May 30, 1896.

A SHORT report of three cases. The first, occurring before 1885, was unrecognized during life. The second, the mother of two children, had always been healthy till onset of myxœdema; was treated without thyroid, and did not improve. The third, a girl of twenty-eight, had gradually grown ill during seven years, but myxœdema was not diagnosed till June, 1895 (prior to this the doctor had not seen her for eighteen months). She was then stout in limbs, body, and face, was irritable, dull, and took no interest in her work; complained of drowsiness and loss of memory; speech slow and hesitating, skin dry and hair falling out, and menstruation stopped. Under thyroid treatment (one grain of Armour's dried thyroid three times a day) and Blaud's pill with arsenic, she rapidly improved. By Christmas she was practically well. She then stopped taking thyroid, and the symptoms began to return.

Arthur J. Hutchison.

Heddaeus (Heidelberg).—*Acute Strumitis, caused by the Diplococcus Fränkel-Weichselbaum, with Secondary Pneumonia.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1896, No. 27.

THE patient, a goitrous subject, had noticed rapid increase of the thyroid during the three months previous to his being seen. He also suffered from attacks of dyspnoea. A fluctuating tumour the size of the fist was found attached to the right side of the thyroid gland. This tumour was removed. A few days afterwards right pneumonia set in, the patient recovering, but the hoarseness persisting, which was due to right recurrent paralysis. The tumour was a cystic adenoma, and bacteriological examination proved the presence of the diplococcus Weichselbaumii in its contents and in the pneumonic sputum. *Michael.*

Langfeldt (Ingelfingen).—*On the Thyroid Gland.* "Rauss Medicinalanzeiger," 1896, No. 13.

A BUTCHER, aged thirty, had suffered for years with increasing weakness and loss of weight. No organic disease or cause could be found. The case, however, became clear on the patient saying he eat every day for luncheon roasted pig's thyroid. The author prohibited the thyroid gland, and in a short time the weakness disappeared, the weight increased, and the patient was cured. This shows that roasting does not destroy the activity of the gland; that it has no influence on the stomach; that it destroys the normal fat; and that the effect ceases with the use of the gland. *Michael.*

Winter, Henry Lyle.—*The Effects of Thyroid Extract in the Treatment of Graves' Disease.* "The American Medico-Surgical Bulletin," July 11, 1896.

A REPORT of four cases. Cases I. and II. were sisters; mother and grandmother were Swiss, and suffered from goitre, with (judging from report) the same symptoms as were present in the cases observed. The chief symptoms complained of were a feeling of nervousness, flushings, "startings" at slight noises, accompanied by violent palpitations and profuse general sweating; at other times heart not very rapid; goitre small; exophthalmos slight. In Case I., morning diarrhoea and anæmia; in Case II., no marked anæmia. Both did well on thyroid extract, in doses of $2\frac{1}{2}$ grains to 5 grains; in both it was able to be discontinued, and the patients reported themselves "entirely well." Cases III. and IV. were more typical cases of Graves' disease. In Case III. the condition had started after recovery from ovariectomy (the left ovary had been removed). Case IV. had been a prostitute. Thyroid treatment exaggerated the symptoms in both, and had to be given up. The history of Case IV. is interesting, but unfortunately not complete, as the patient was lost sight of. Whilst she remained under observation, receiving "mixed treatment," the symptoms of Graves' disease gradually and completely disappeared, but diminished reflexes, double vision, shooting pains, etc., pointed to the development of tabes. The author does not suggest that the two diseases were in any way related to each other, but merely states the facts as they occurred.

In conclusion, the author gives his reasons for considering Cases I. and II. to be cases of true exophthalmic goitre, and points out that while thyroid treatment may sometimes be beneficial, it must not be used indiscriminately.

Arthur J. Hutchison.