

Putelli, F.—*On the Examination of the Hearing of Railway Employees.* "Arch. Ital. d'Otolog.," vol. xviii, No. 6, 1907.

Dr. Putelli gives a *resumé* of the recent publications with regard to this point, and has come to the opinion that at present, of those tests which do not require mathematical exactness, the whispering voice produced by the residual air gives us the most universally convenient method of acoumetry. V. Grazzi.

NECK, THYROID, ŒSOPHAGUS.

Melandri, F. G., and Legg, T. P.—*Case of Acute Suppuration in a Thyroid Adenoma due to the Bacillus Typhosus.* "Lancet," January 25, 1908.

The case is described by the title. Acute abscess of the thyroid is not a very common occurrence, and when it does occur, apart from traumatism, such as puncturing a cyst, it is more often observed in connection with an acute febrile tissue and generally at a late stage of the illness.

StClair Thomson.

Manson, J. S.—*Open Safety-pin in the Œsophagus of a Child aged five months.* "Lancet," January 4, 1908.

A male child, aged five months, was admitted to the Oldham Infirmary on October 26, 1907, with a history of having swallowed a safety-pin one hour previous to admission. A skiagram was taken and the pin was seen to lie about the middle of the œsophagus, open with the point upwards. It seemed a hopeless task to try to get the pin up by means of a probang, so it was resolved to push the pin down into the stomach and hope for the best. An ordinary stomach-tube of small-size was pushed down the œsophagus, and after withdrawing another skiagram was taken showing the pin lying in the stomach. The child was kept in bed and watched carefully. Milk diet was given, and four days after admission a dose of castor-oil. On the afternoon of November 2 the pin was found sticking halfway out at the anus. The pin took six and a quarter days to accomplish the journey from the mouth to the anus, and only once or twice did the child seem at all fretful. The case seems worthy of note in showing the power of the alimentary canal in dealing with a foreign body of a somewhat formidable nature.

StClair Thomson.

Paterson, D. R. (Cardiff).—*Note on the Removal of an Open Safety-pin in the Œsophagus of a Child aged Five Months.* "Lancet," February 1, 1908.

Criticising the above communication Dr. Paterson points out the great dangers of the method employed, although it ended fortunately. He pleads for the adoption of Killian's œsophagoscopic tube in any similar cases.

StClair Thomson.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Slater, A. B.—*A Case of Diphtheria of the Skin, of Three Years' Duration, treated by Antitoxine.* "Lancet," January 4, 1908.

There seems to be no doubt that the most important factor in this case was the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus. The disease apparently commenced