

begging the question to look upon it as a malady which kills by its local processes only. It will be found in the majority of cases that death in diphtheria has been brought about by pure asthenia, and not by suffocation.

As regards causation, I hold that no bacillary infection will ensue unless the nidus be prepared: in other words, it is necessary that the victim of the disease must be in ailing health, and hence that the fauces must be previously prepared, as it were, either by some form of tonsillitis or other catarrhal affection, before there will be a cultivation of Loeffler's bacillus.

This leads up to an important point in treatment. The constitutional symptoms require a generous and stimulating dietary. Further, as showing the grave state of the patient, tracheotomy is to be discountenanced in all children under one year of age, as it is seldom successful.

As regards local treatment, Dr. Taylor advocated the free swabbing of the throat with a saturated solution of salicylate of soda.

The further discussion was adjourned to a special meeting of the Society to be held on November 16th. *R. Lake.*

ABSTRACTS.

DIPHTHERIA, &C.

Oertel (München).—*Scheme of a General Official Research as to the Causes of Epidemic Diphtheria.* "Internat. Klin. Rundschau," 1894, No. 34.

CONCERNING the proposition of an inquiry upon the causes of diphtheria at the eighth international congress of hygiene and demography in Budapesth, the author proposes researches (1) on the bacteriology of the disease, (2) on its epidemiology and hygiene, consisting in official researches upon the influence of climate, on individual, local and social causes producing increase of virulence and leading to the propagation of diphtheria; a scheme of a paper of questions on each case to be filled by physicians, and a report on the hygienic methods necessary to diminish the spread of the disease. *Michael.*

Kohn.—*On School Hygiene and Diphtheria.* Gesellschaft der Aerzte in Wien, Meeting Mar. 25, 1894.

IF only one child is affected in the school it is recommended that the others shall not visit the school during fourteen days; if more than one case arise, the school should be closed and disinfected. All the children should use, as a prophylactic, inhalations of potash permanganate. *Michael.*

Escherich (Graz).—*Pathogenesis of Diphtheria*. "Wiener Klin. Woch.," 1894, No. 22.

THE author concludes : For the origination of diphtheria, over and above the presence of the bacilli, it is necessary that there should be a specific receptivity of the tissue. The condition, both local and general, is of influence, as well as the virulence of the bacillus. Other saprophytic bacteria and their products may also have an influence upon the spread and the clinical nature of the process. The cure is to be effected by obtaining immunity of the diseased organism, so that the predisposition is prevented or is transformed into the contrary. *Michael.*

Roth (Strasburg).—*Bacteriological and Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment of Diphtheria*. "Jahrbuch für Kinderheilk.," Band 28, Heft 1.

DETAILED review of the bacteriology of diphtheria without bringing forward anything new. The author reports on twenty-five cases bacteriologically examined, and gives a report on the results of the hospital. For treatment, carbol-papayotin and liquor ferri are employed. Of one hundred and twelve tracheotomized cases, fifty-nine (fifty-three per cent.) were cured. Of one hundred and twenty-one not operated upon, ninety (seventy-four per cent.) were cured. *Michael.*

Abel (Greifswald).—*Case of Wound Diphtheria with Loeffler's Bacilli*. "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1894, No. 24.

IN an infected wound of a finger the author has found the characteristic bacilli. The child ten days previously had had diphtheria of the tonsils. *Michael.*

Variot, G.—*Epidemic of Diphtheria in a little town in Burgundy*. "Journal de Clinique et Therap. Infantiles," July 19, 1894.

RELATION of a grave epidemic of diphtheria in Chagny, a town in Burgundy. Of four thousand five hundred inhabitants, there were seven hundred cases of this disease, with sixty deaths. The greatest number of cases occurred in young subjects from one to twelve years of age. The toxic form has been frequent. *A. Cartaz.*

Bonnier, Madam P.—*Necessity of Bacteriological Examination for the Diagnosis of Diphtheritic Anginas*. Thèse de Paris, 1894.

THE authoress studies the various symptoms of anginas with pseudo-membranes, and proves that temperature, colouration of the mucous membrane, adenopathy, etc., are without specific value in the diagnosis of diphtheria. Only bacteriological examination gives a real diagnosis. It is necessary to make cultures and histological examination in each case of suspected angina. *A. Cartaz.*

Donath.—*Diphtheritic Hemiplegia*. "Neurolog. Centralblatt," 1893.

REPORT of a case. *Michael.*

Nikitin (St. Petersburg).—*Case of Fibrinous Laryngo-Tracheitis of Diphtheritic Nature*.

THE only remarkable feature of the case was that the disease did not

attack the pharynx and the tonsils, but only the larynx and the trachea. Dr. Pewsner, who performed the bacteriological examination, found Loeffler's bacilli in the membranes. *Michael.*

Nesemann.—*Treatment of Diphtheria.* "Aerzte Praktiker," 1893.

NOTHING new.

Michael.

Gateau and Hulot.—*Treatment of Diphtheritic Angina by Solution of Sublimite in Glycerine.* "Archives Gen. de Med.," Sept., 1894.

THE authors relate cases treated by that procedure; painting the parts of the fauces invaded by false membranes with a solution of bichloride of mercury in glycerine of one to twenty. These paintings were done twice a day, and three or four times in grave cases. At the same time, before the paintings, thorough nasal and buccal irrigations with bone solution were performed. Of sixty-four cases so treated, they have had sixty-one cures; yet twenty-five of these anginas were severe and toxic.

A. Cartaz.

Villière.—*Treatment of Diphtheritic Angina by Mercurial Spray.* "Journ. de Clin. et Therap. Infantiles," Sep. 20., 1894.

THE author has treated ninety-eight cases of diphtheria, fifty-two of laryngitis, and forty-six of angina, by a spray of solution of sublimate (one in five hundred) used twice or more a day. Never has he observed symptoms of mercurial intoxication. Of ninety-eight cases, he has had ninety-six cures.

A. Cartaz.

Moizard.—*Treatment of Diphtheritic Angina with Bichloride of Mercury in Solution in Glycerine.*

THE author has treated by that method one hundred and twelve cases of diphtheritic angina, with eighteen deaths and ninety-four cures. The sublimate is employed in solution (one in twenty or one in thirty) in pure glycerine. With little cotton tampons, soaked in that solution, he paints twice or three times a day the diphtheritic patches. It is necessary to absorb with pure cotton the excess of solution, so as to prevent toxic action of the mercurial salt. He employs at the same time antiseptic washings of the mouth and nose, and general tonic treatment.

A. Cartaz.

Le Gendre, Arsène.—*Treatment of Diphtheria by a Solution of Sublimite in Glycerine.* Thèse de Paris, 1894.

THE author uses a solution of bichloride of mercury in glycerine, from one in thirty to one in twenty. After washing the fauces with antiseptic liquids, he applies the mercurial solution with a cotton tampon in the parts infected, two or three times a day. In forty-two cases of diphtheria, including twenty-three cases with intense infection, he has obtained twenty-nine cures.

A. Cartaz.

Lerassort.—*Diphtheria and Petroleum.* "Normandie Med.," Oct. 1, 1894.

RELATION of a case of severe diphtheritic angina cured by painting the fauces with petroleum oil.

A. Cartaz.

Canon (Berlin).—*Diphtheria Treatment by "Heilserum."* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1894, No. 23.

REPORT on experiments made in the Moabit Hospital during the last year. In June, 1893, fifteen children were treated; two of these died. Seven were tracheotomized, all of whom were cured. From December, 1893, to March, 1894, forty-four cases were treated with serum, with thirty-three (seventy-five per cent.) cures. Of thirteen tracheotomized cases, nine (sixty-two per cent.) were cured; of sixty-six children with diphtheria treated without serum, forty-six (seventy per cent.) were cured; and of thirty-five tracheotomized, twenty-two (sixty-three per cent.) were cured. The results are nearly the same. *Michael.*

Behring (Berlin).—*Further Remarks on the Cure of Diphtheria.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1894, No. 32.

POLEMICAL article concerning the diphtheria serum. *Michael.*

Strahlmann. — *The Diphtheria Serum of Behring-Ehrlich.* "Allg. Med. Centralzeitung," 1894, No. 58.

THE author has applied the medicament in forty-eight cases with good results. Only three cases have died. It was also applied in ninety-four cases as a prophylactic against diphtheria. Some of them get the disease some weeks later. *Michael.*

Wernicke (Berlin).—*Experimental Contribution to the Knowledge of Loeffler's Diphtheria Bacillus and the Blood-serum Treatment.* "Archiv für Hygiene," 1893.

DOGS are very receptive to the bacilli. There is a great difference between them and guinea-pigs. By feeding with the meat of an immunized sheep it was possible to produce a certain degree of immunity in dogs. This immunity increased with the quantity of immunizing material given to the sheep. By feeding with meat of sheep dead of diphtheria immunity could also be produced. Experiments with dog-serum in diphtheritic human subjects gave encouraging results.

Michael.

Buchner (München). — *Notice on Diphtheritic Antitoxin Preparations.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1894, No. 33.

POLEMICAL article concerning Behring's diphtheria serum. *Michael.*

Raubitschek (Carolinenthal).—*New Treatment of Whooping Cough.* "Therap. Monats.," 1894, No. 4.

THE author recommends brushing the pharynx with a one per cent solution of sublimate. *Michael.*