

behind. This is an exceedingly painful and irritable form of eczema. It usually occurs in people who take a considerable amount of exercise, and sweat freely in that part. In that case it is necessary to curtail the exercise, and not to let the patient walk too much. If the condition is very acute or very painful and there are cracks between the scrotum and the thigh, the patient should be told to rest for a time in bed. The parts should be bathed freely with an antiseptic lotion and then carefully dried, and an ointment containing a small proportion of sulphur should be applied accurately all over the parts. It is not necessary in this form to give any internal medicine. It is purely local, and requires local treatment for its cure.

*Varicose Eczema.*—The next form, which is exceedingly common in adults, is the form which is associated with varicose veins, namely, varicose eczema. It commences, as a rule, in a single, circular patch, which spreads at its edge. There is usually some discharge, and the part becomes exceedingly painful, and perhaps it will prevent the patient from walking. In the course of time it may lead to a varicose ulcer. The treatment is rest in bed, with the leg elevated, especially at night, and the application of an exceedingly useful preparation—namely, Unna's zinc glycerine jelly. I do not know of any application of more use for this particular form of eczema. It is made by mixing oxide of zinc, gelatine, glycerine, and water. It can be got from almost any chemist, and the way to apply it is rather important. The little cube should be placed in a galley-pot which is dry; the galley-pot is then placed in a pot of boiling water until the gelatine liquefies. As soon as it liquefies the pot should be taken out of the hot water and allowed to cool a little. As soon as it is sufficiently cool to be put upon the skin, it should be painted on by means of a large brush. It is important not to move the brush up and down and from side to side. The brush should always be laid on in one direction, preferably from above downwards, beginning with firm pressure. One single application is enough for any one area. It is not suitable if there is much discharge. The gelatine should be applied all over the vein as well as over the eczematous patch. As the gelatine is drying, a little cotton-wool should be put upon it so as to make it dry. Then the patient can put on a sock and drawers and he will remain perfectly comfortable. Usually, if the condition of the skin is not too acute, one application will last three days. It should then be taken off, without the application of water, being peeled off like a kid glove. After washing the skin with an antiseptic lotion, such as weak carbolic or tar, the gelatine should be re-applied. It is exceedingly useful, because