

Large doses in two of the cases were successful where small doses failed. Two of the English firms who make thymus-tabloids inform me they use the calf's thymus, so that it is probable where tabloids were given that it was calf's thymus which was made use of. I have ascertained that the preparations used in 5 cases were derived from the calf. It must be borne in mind, in judging of the remedy, that it is probable it has been used without benefit in a considerable number of cases which have never been published. On this account it would be hardly fair to compare these cases, as I shall presently compare my own, with cases treated by other methods.

Dreschfeld, in a recent article on Grave's disease, remarks that he has tried thymus gland in three cases without any marked benefit. Möbius, in his recent work on Basedow's disease, mentions that he has treated several patients with slightly cooked calf's thymus for a shorter or longer time. They improved, but not more or sooner than under other modes of treatment.

In regard to the cases treated by himself, his conclusions are :

Of the twenty cases I have now recorded under my care, treated by the thymus gland, one died, and in six no improvement was observed. In thirteen cases there was some improvement. In none of these, however, have I observed any such decided effect produced on the most important symptoms, and on the progress of the disease, as could lead me justifiably to conclude that the thymus had any great therapeutic activity. For the sake of comparison, I propose to contrast the progress of these twenty cases with a similar number treated by other methods.

In the beginning of this paper I stated that the symptom which, up to the present time, I have found most intractable is the rapidity of the pulse-rate. One must, of course, avoid the error of taking the diminished frequency resulting from rest as a result of a remedy. In my cases I have endeavored to avoid this fallacy. In twelve of the cases no alteration in the pulse-rate was observed, and in two it increased slightly. In six it diminished; in all but one of these the diminution was only slight. In the one case in which there was very considerable slowing this improvement was only observed after the remedy had been taken for some months, and it seems doubtful whether the thymus had anything to do with the change, as the pulse-rate subsequently increased again while the remedy was still continued in large doses. Of the twenty comparison-cases no alteration in the pulse-rate was observed in eleven, and in two it increased slightly. In four cases there was marked but gradual diminution, and in three