

to diseased mucous membrane, is more liable to pneumonia, la grippe, tuberculosis, than those who do not smoke, or smoke moderately. Heart trouble is common among those who use tobacco to excess. Cigarette smoking is more injurious than pipe or cigar smoking, because of the fact that a milder tobacco is employed in cigarettes, and the smoker gets into the habit of inhaling the smoke. Children who smoke have their growth seriously interfered with, as the use of tobacco, in the young, deranges digestion, assimilation, elimination, metabolism and lays the foundation for early decay. The excessive use of tobacco has caused many a mental wreck and filled many a suicide's and premature grave. It is one of the prominent duties before the medical profession to inculcate habits of moderation in the use of both alcohol and tobacco.

Poisoning by the Solanine of Potatoes.

Pfuhl, last year, from May 21 to June 1, observed in fifty-six soldiers a marked poisoning, accompanied by chills, fever, headache, abdominal pains, diarrhea, vomiting, vertigo, syncope and in one case convulsions. In most of the patients there was present a yellowish condition of the conjunctiva, and, in some cases, of the skin. The fever fell on the fourth day. In the feces there was found no residuum of potatoes. In the urine there was a little albumen. On the third day, 47 of the patients were able to go on duty again. The treatment consisted of rest in bed, calomel and tincture of opium.

The potatoes, of which the soldiers had been eating, were examined, and it was found that in them the solanine, instead of being .36 per cent., was .38 per cent. in the raw and .24 in the cooked.—Translated from *Giornale Internazionale delle Scienze Mediche*, by HARLEY SMITH.

Encephalic Circulatory Disturbances Associated with Convulsive Phenomena.

Convulsions may originate from direct contact of the convulsive matters with the nerve cell (Vulpian).

The beginning of convulsions seems to have a relation with a disturbance of the cerebral circulation. From experimental and clinical facts it seems to be proved that congestion exists during the convulsions. But that does not prove that congestion is the initial fact which determines the convulsion. From experiments and from clinical facts, it is proved that a short, intense anemia may produce convulsions. When the latter have been brought on, then the anemia is replaced by a congestion arising from the dilatation of the arterioles, and from the filling up of the capillaries and small veins. In some cases the convulsions may be attributed to a complex cause—circulatory