

Corpora Lutea.

For therapeutic purposes the corpus luteum verum from the ovary of cows is used. This is usually found near the surface of the ovary after fertilization, and is formed by alterations in the empty follicle. The yellow color of this organ or of the middle part of it—the color to which it owes its name—is said by Benkiser to depend not on an alteration of the coloring matter of the blood, but on fatty infiltration of the cells.

The use of corpora lutea was suggested by Lebreton for the treatment of disturbances during pregnancy. He assumed that these disturbances were due to autointoxication, which was caused by a functional insufficiency of the corpora lutea. He therefore administered these organs in a dry state in doses of 0.05 grm. (gr. 5-6) twice a day to gravid patients who complained of vomiting, nausea, a sensation of choking, palpitation of the heart and flushings. The immediate result was the cessation of the vomiting, while the other troublesome symptoms were very rapidly relieved and a complete cure was effected in all cases after 14 days.

L. Fränkel regards the corpus luteum as a gland with an internal secretion; he credits the organ with the function of supplying the uterus with nutritive impulses in a cyclical manner. These impulses prevent the uterus from reverting to the infantile state or from passing into the senile state. Further, the uterus is said to be prepared by the activity of the organ for the reception of the fertilized ovum. The latter is then aided in its development by the secretion. Should the ovum fail to become fertilized, the secretion then causes menstruation to appear.—*Merck's Annual Report.*

Glandulae Prostatæ Siccae.

This preparation is obtained from the prostate glands of bulls. It is a greyish-yellow powder, one part of which is equivalent to six parts of the fresh organ. The tablets obtained by compressing the dry powder are equivalent to 0.125 grm. (gr. 2) of the dried substance or to 0.75 grm. (gr. 12) of the fresh gland.

E. Reinert made use of the experience which has been obtained in thyroid hypertrophy by the use of thyroïdin. He used the analogous treatment in hypertrophy of the prostate. After administering prostate substance for several weeks he obtained a very favorable result in two cases, for both the subjective and the objective troubles improved considerably. J. Englisch also, in his observations on recent methods of treating hypertrophy