The Growth of Bacteria.

Feinberg (*Deutsche Med. Woch.*) claims to have demonstrated by special method of staining the presence of nuclei in bacteria. The staining is carried out by fixation in absolute alcohol, then placing in eosin methylene-blue mixture. The preparation is left about 20 minutes in the stain. It is then washed and placed in absolute alcohol to remove the excess of stain and the precipitate. This takes several minutes. He now reports that he has been able to observe multiplication of bacteria, by division of the nucleus, followed by division of the body. This he has seen repeatedly in cultures of the diphtheria-bacillus, and also of the hay-bacillus, so that he believes that it may be considered proved that bacteria multiply by direct amitotic nuclear division.—*Philadelphia Medical Journal.*

Bacteria Similar to Tubercle Bacilli in Gangrene of the Lungs.

Lydia Rabinowitsch (*Deutsche Med. Woch.*) describes the case of a man who was supposed to have chronic bronchitis. The sputum contained no tubercle-bacilli. Toward the latter part of life he had signs of gangrene of the lung, and post-mortem showed a cavity filled with gangrenous material without any other signs of tuberculosis. In the last few days of life the sputum was discovered to contain bacteria which had the same staining characteristics and the same morphology as the tubercle-bacillus. Injection into guinea-pigs, however, did not produce tuberculosis. Mice also remained free from the disease. Evidently, then, this is a bacillus resembling the tubercle-bacillus, but it is not the tubercle-bacillus. The cultures were different from the latter. This is the first instance in which a bacillus of the tinctorial characteristics of the tubercle-bacillus, but which was not this bacillus, has been discovered in the sputum.—*Philadelphia Medical Journal.*

The Pathology of Bronchial Asthma.

Fraenkel (*Deutsche Med. Woch.*) describes some extremely interesting pathological observations in a case of bronchial asthma. The man had extremely frequent attacks, the last of which occurred thirty-six years before death, the end being caused by increased weakness of the heart. There has always been some doubt as to the manner of origin of Curschmann's spirals. This case he believes explains their origin. The staining with Schmidt's modification of the Blondi-Heidenhain triacid mixture demonstrated satisfactorily that they are composed purely of mucus and not of fibrin, and the microscopic examination showed changes which consisted essentially in a curious elongation of the cells with narrowing of the lateral diameter. Firmly