

angina pectoris and aneurysm are. In this connexion the author brings forward what is evidently with him a cherished idea, which may very likely be true, viz., that bathers' cramp is really angina pectoris.

In his summary, the author looks to find, by the use of the baths, a capillary dilatation with relief to the ventricular circulation, and thereby better ventricular emptying and slowing of the heart rate, increased tone and volume of the distal capillary circulation, and a reflex effect on the cardiac ganglia. The floating up of the viscera may be of use in relieving the large venous trunks which are ordinarily pressed upon by these viscera, and the action of the skin and of the kidneys is certainly stimulated.

HEITZ. "Hypertension and Carbogaseous Baths." *Revue de Médecine*, 10th June, 1906.

This author gives an impression of being a little too enthusiastic over the good results of baths of this nature, but adds much interesting material relative to cases that have been observed with evident care. The cases have been treated at Royat, and only those are dealt with, in which the baths are the sole form of treatment. The author measures his results always by means of instruments, especially those of Potain and of Goertner, and prefaces his information by the statement that it is only permanent, chronic hypertension that lends itself readily to amelioration. In transient or paroxysmal hypertensions, such as those of eclampsia, lead colic, or scarlatinal nephritis, no good is to be hoped.

Heitz is of the opinion that the deposit of gaseous bubbles on the skin is of use in exciting the terminations of the sensory nerves, that the baths excite great vaso-dilation of the superficial vessels, as shown by the redness of the skin, that the heart is slowed, that excitation of the abdominal vaso-constrictors occurs; and he observes continually that the sphygmomanometer shows a lowering of the blood pressure. Diuresis is increased as is uric acid elimination, and leucocytosis, especially of the eosinophiles, produced. The lowered blood pressure is not transitory, but lasts for a long time—often months. In 1904, this author reported favourable results in 60 per cent. of his cases, and now thinks he may venture to say in 75 to 80 per cent. The refractory cases are those of moderate hypertension. The disappearance of local pallor and cold is notable, and at times a real enlarging of the radial artery may be felt.

In the particularization of cases, cardiac neuroses and paroxysmal tachycardiac have been much benefited, though wisely remarks that