

RODENT ULCERS AND EPITHELIOMATA.

Of rodent ulcers we have had experience with seventeen. Without exception excellent results have been or are being obtained. In ten a record of previous treatment with pastes, X-rays, or leucodescent light, was admitted, but no permanent curative result had followed. It is hardly necessary to go into the minute details of all these cases. After a short application of the radium plaque, the small ulcers have almost invariably crusted over in ten to fourteen days, and when this crust detached itself the skin underneath was healed and smooth and of a pinkish tint, which soon faded to the normal color of the skin. These patients should be seen subsequently, as in cases where a slight thickening of the tissues remains an application of the rays to produce a deeper penetration without an ulcerative effect is desirable, in order to insure a good result.

Where the ulceration is more extensive, longer and more frequent applications are necessary. The treatment in these cases sometimes extends over several months, as it is necessary to feel one's way very cautiously. One such case was as follows:

Miss G., 32, referred by Dr. H. B. Anderson, came under observation Aug. 28, 1910. Since birth she had had an ulcerated area in the right temporal region. It increased gradually as a child, and from the age of ten until the present she had been under treatment of various kinds. It has twice been excised, and pastes, X-rays and leucodescent light have all been tried. It would improve, but that was all. Among those who have seen this case there is a difference of opinion as to the true condition. The early age at which it began would suggest a lupoid character, but the appearance in August suggested rather a rodent type. Dr. Louis Wickham saw the case after some radium therapy had been employed, but would not give a definite diagnosis. He expressed the opinion that it was probably of lupoid character to start with, but had taken on the character of the rodent ulcer.

When first seen there was an area of scar tissue on the right temple the shape of an equilateral triangle of one inch and a half to each side. In this area, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch behind the eye, was an ulcer $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch in diameter punched out with thickened and slightly undermined edges. The floor was covered with pale, unhealthy looking granulations, and there was a sero-purulent discharge. Behind this ulcer, at the lower angle of the area, was another smaller ulcer of similar appearance, and just at the angle of the eye was a small ulcer, the size of a pin's head.

A strong plaque, screened, was used several times, and then