

Value of Stypticin.—DR. MARTIN FREUND (*Therapeutische Monatshefte*).

Stypticin is, as should be well known by this time, the hydrochlorate of cotarnin, a base prepared from the opium alkaloid narcotin. It is closely allied to hydrastinin hydrochlorate, the hemostatic properties of which are so generally known. The author shows that the hemostatic properties of stypticin reside in its base, cotarnin, and the acid with which the cotarnin is united is of no importance—just as the anodyn and hypnotic properties of the morphin salts reside in the morphin and not in the sulphate, hydrochlorate, acetate, etc.

Dr. Freund thus summarizes the indications of stypticin :

1. It is useful in hemorrhages of the menopause.
2. In hemorrhages from subinvolution of the uterus, provided the subinvolution be not due to fetal or placental débris.
3. In reflex (secondary) hemorrhages—that is, hemorrhages caused by diseases of the adnexa of parametrium, without any involvement of the uterus.
4. In congestive menorrhagia of young girls, without a pathological basis.
5. In myomata.
6. In hemorrhages during gestation, stypticin being devoid of oxytocic properties.

Stypticin has proved useful also in hemoptysis and intestinal and vesical hemorrhage. The usually effective single dose is two tablets of $\frac{3}{4}$ grn. each, which dose may be repeated four to five times a day. Almost ten years' experience has shown that the drug, even in large doses, is devoid of bad by-effects.—*The Post-Graduate*.

Books a Medium of Tuberculous Infection.

During the past year a number of clerks employed in a Berlin library contracted tuberculosis. This led to having an examination made of a number of books in the library. Thirty-seven volumes of popular fiction which had been in use from three to six years, and which showed signs of much wear, were selected. Steeping the corners of the leaves and the most soiled parts of the paper for twenty-four hours in normal salt solution and rubbing the bindings with the same, the washings were centrifuged, but they failed on examination to reveal the bacillus of tuberculosis. Fifty guinea-pigs were then injected with the water under proper precautions, and when at the end of three and a half months the forty-three surviving were killed, fifteen, or 35 per cent., were found to have tubercle in various organs. Similar experiments with sixty other volumes that had been for from six months to two years only in use, but being of a different class of literature were in less request