

(c) will be perfectly limpid. Tarchetti carried out similar experiments with human blood and that of animals, both fresh and dried, for more than two months on cloth, wool, and knife blades, and found the method reliable. The reaction occurs almost as well at the air temperature as at 37 degrees C. The solutions must be absolutely clear to begin with, and he finds distilled water better for this purpose than normal saline fluid, for it brings all the hemoglobin out of the corpuscles. He has found that the diagnosis can be at once made with the greatest certainty in a hanging drop under the microscope; a slight uniform precipitate is at once formed, and in a few minutes is seen as islets united in a reticulate pattern much resembling the arrangement of Eberth's bacillus agglutinated by typhoid serum. The same thing is observed in filtered aqueous solutions of dried blood. It is only after a long time (twelve or twenty-four hours) that a similar appearance is seen in blood of other animals.—*British Medical Journal*.

ACUTE CARDIAC FAILURE.

Richard Douglas Powell (*The Lancet*), in the Cavendish Lecture, mentions among the causes of this accident direct injury, as when a healthy man ruptures, during a violent exertion, one of his aortic cusps, the displacement of a clot from a systemic vein, and cardiac failure from over-taxation. There are always two factors at work, direct fatigue of the nervo-muscular tissue and a poisoning of the blood from an auto-metabolic source. Among the concomitants of heart distress or failure during violent exercise, as running, vomiting is one of the most common. One of the most constant after-effects is anemia. Gastro-intestinal attacks, vomiting, and diarrhea are not uncommon occurrences in those who, habitually leading a sedentary life, suddenly take to exhausting exercise. The heart of a child between six and twelve is, according to the author, relatively hypertrophied, which is to be ascribed to the ceaseless activity at this age. A point often forgotten in the case of young children is their special aptitude for short spells of active exercise, but their complete unfitness for prolonged monotonous exertion. The treatment of acute cardiac failure from overstrain involves a few weeks of rest and many months of careful supervision. In many there is a feeble lung capacity, and for such cases well-ordered respiratory exercises are of great utility.

The following are the special factors in acute cardiac impairment in acute disease: (1) maloxxygenated and otherwise con-