

lower the border two or three inches. (3) Rapidity of escape of the gas into the intestines will be a crude test of the tone of the pylorus. Tumors may be more readily palpated. This method has the advantage over other methods of being safer and much less unpleasant, and, in the opinion of the author, it is efficient.—*Medical Record*.

Eczema of the Scalp

In a child, cut the hair short and soften the crusts with strips of flannel dipped in oil, and fasten on with a calico cap for six hours. After removal of the crusts an ointment of oleate of zinc or lead may be used, with later, perhaps, a few grains of ammoniated mercury added. Boric acid and starch poultices may be used for the preliminary cleansing, but linseed and bread poultices should be absolutely tabooed, as they too often serve as nutrient media for pus and other cocci.—*Dr. Radcliffe Crocker*.

The Treatment of Ascites by Means of Collargol. RIEHL. (*Munch. med. Wochenschr.*, 1910, No. 21.)

Riehl reports three cases of ascites, one due to ovarian cyst and two to hepatic cirrhosis, in which collargol proved useful. The skin of the abdomen or of the back was thoroughly cleansed and from 3 to 4 grams of unguentum Credé were firmly rubbed in from fifteen to twenty minutes. In each of the three cases the ascites disappeared, not to return until after a considerable interval of time. The good results of the treatment were apparently due to the diuretic action of the collargol, since in every case a marked increase in the amount of urine secreted was observed. Occasionally a watery diarrhea ensued and also aided in the elimination of the fluid. The number of cases reported is small, but if puncture of the abdomen can occasionally be replaced by so simple a procedure, the latter is certainly worth a trial.—*Interstate Medical Journal*.

The Antitoxin Treatment of Diphtheria

Again are we nearing the season when the problem of diphtheria and its treatment must be met and solved. The writer of this paragraph is forcibly reminded of the fact by the receipt of a modest but important brochure of sixteen pages, bearing