

Calcium chloride solutions, writes Dr. Beasley, have not been found incompatible with the physiological functions of the human economy; on the contrary, the calcium salts have a peculiarly selective inhibitory effect upon the tubercle bacilli in living tissue. Dr. Beasley has had under observation 486 patients in various stages of phthisis upon which treatment with the calcium salts was used, the method of administration being by intravenous injection. None of these cases were engaged in occupations where calcium might have been absorbed directly. He also experimented with rabbits, using the iodide and chloride of calcium intravenously successfully; the best results apparently being obtained from the chloride.

The treatment can be adopted in any stage of the disease. The doses in some cases reached 15 grains, beginning in every case with two grains, and repeating each fifth day to the number of five injections. The apparatus used was the ordinary Leur 20 c.c. syringe. The dose of calcium is given dissolved in 20 c.c. of freshly distilled water at a temperature of 103° F. which should be maintained throughout the procedure. The area of injection should be thoroughly sterilized before the operation and no dressing used afterwards. Stress is laid upon the avoidance of infiltration of the surrounding tissues, otherwise sloughing may occur.

After each five injections two weeks should intervene before the second series of five, and this should be continued for two or three months after tubercular manifestations have disappeared.

The author of this method of treatment cautiously states that within the last five months six patients so treated for phthisis have been dismissed as apparently cured, but that they will be kept under observation for the purpose of further study.—*American Medicine*.

POISONS IN WARFARE

The foul, if clever, recourse of the Germans to the use of poisonous gases in the field and in explosive tubes are well illustrated in a book just issued, written by a chemist and entitled "The Poison War." We have here a fair amount of elementary chemistry and toxicology which will not be fresh matter to our readers, and an interesting account of the chemistry of modern explosives, their manufacture, and the materials on which their foundation is based, which will be new to most of them. Also certain facts are brought to light which show how completely the Germans have ignored