

hausen of a micro-organism in erysipelas, and recently Friedlander, of Berlin (*Virchow's Archiv.*) has been rewarded by the discovery of micro-organisms in several cases of acute pneumonia. They were found in pairs, and sometimes in long chains, and especially numerous during the stage of red hepatization; also in the lymph spaces of the interstitial connective tissue, thus showing that they can pass into the current of the circulation and develop in the living tissues.

The treatment of phthisis by inhalation has received a fresh impetus since the discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch and Baugarten. There can be no doubt that as an adjunct to other treatment it will be of great utility, but it can never take the place of constitutional and general treatment. Fränkel recommends the injection of antiseptics into the lung tissues in phthisis, foetid bronchitis, and gangrene of the lungs. In a patient with foetid expectoration he injected fifty minims of a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid. No fever or reaction followed. These injections are supposed to set up inflammatory action, and as a result cicatricial bands are formed which limit the tubercular process.

The investigations of Drs. Wood and Formad regarding the contagium of diphtheria seem to point to the identity of croup and diphtheria, and that all forms of inflammation about the throat and larynx are the same in kind, differing only in intensity, inasmuch as the micrococci in diphtheria are identical with those found in all buccal and pharyngeal inflammations, however slight. Micrococci are only found disseminated in the blood and tissues in the virulent forms of the disease, and their power of reproduction is most marked in malignant cases.

In the treatment of delirium tremens, Dr. Latham (Cambridge Med. Society) recommends in all cases the continuance of the accustomed stimulus, for a time at least, and that opium should be given very guardedly to those of broken down health and diseased organs.

In the treatment of acute rheumatism, salicin and the salicylates have nearly replaced all other methods of treatment. The results have been for the most part tolerably uniform and eminently satisfactory. It is especially in those cases of rheumatism which are characterized by the greatest acuteness and the highest temperature that these

remedies have achieved their most signal triumphs. Dr. Broadbent maintains, and his observations are borne out by our own experience, that when the salicylic compounds fail to control the disease at once, nothing is gained by their continued administration. He also gave it as his opinion that they had no influence upon the course of pericarditis or endocarditis; but that when used early they prevented the occurrence of these complications by hastening the termination of the disease. Dr. Green (*Practitioner*) recommends very highly, nitroglycerine in certain forms of heart-disease, especially angina pectoris. The dose is one drop of a one per cent solution in alcohol. The attacks may be warded off by the continuous administration of the remedy every three hours.—Dr. R. S. Smith, (*Brit. Med. Journal*), gives detailed histories of three cases of diabetes in his own practice, which all showed marked improvement under the influence of codeia. The improvement ceased immediately when the agent was withheld, and was renewed on its repetition. Dr. Owen. (*Ind. Méd. Gazette*), reports on the treatment of acute dysentery by aconite, based on one hundred and fifty cases. He gave it in minim doses (B. P.) every fifteen minutes for the first two hours, and after that, one minim every hour. The results were, according to his analysis of the cases, very satisfactory. In the *Bull. Gen de Therap.*, M. Desplats gives his experience in the treatment of 51 cases of typhoid fever with carbolic acid. He asserts that after each dose the temperature falls and the nervous symptoms abate, and the condition of the patient is greatly improved. Dr. Balfour (*Brit. Med. Journal*), adduces the theory that dilatation of the heart is the cause of the so-called hæmic murmurs. He ascertained by experiments on animals, that the condition productive of a murmur is not properly one of anæmia, but of spanæmia. In this state, the cardiac muscle being relaxed and the volume of blood increased, a certain amount of dilatation was inevitable, and the current of blood regurgitating through the dilated mitral orifice sets the relaxed auricular wall into vibration, and thus produces a murmur. The use of caffeine in cardiac disease is strongly recommended by M. Huchard (*Union Med.*) It acts more rapidly than digitalis, and in fatty heart, where the latter is contraindicated, it unquestionably does good. The dose recommended is four,