

ture common to many other therapeutic measures. The prognosis depends essentially on the more or less pronounced anemia, and the way in which the anemia is influenced by treatment. In cases of myelemia, the prognosis depends chiefly on the resistance of myelocytes. In any event, the cases of myelemia in which the number of leucocytes does not correspond to the size of the spleen should be regarded as the least favorable. He advocates a trial of Röntgen treatment in every case, without fail. It should be suspended or restricted in case the anemia increases or the general health shows serious changes. It may be possible, he adds, that cases in which Röntgen treatment does not seem to help, may be modified by other measures, such as a course of arsenic, so that after a time the Röntgen treatment may be resumed with good results. In one case of myelemia the patient was so much improved that she passed through a subsequent pregnancy without exacerbation of her condition, and is still, two years later, free from noticeable disturbances. The results were better when the spleen and lymph glands were exposed rather than the bones.—*Zeitschrift f. Kl. Med.*

The Prophylaxis of Syphilis. MM. METCHNIKOFF AND ROUX.

At the last meeting of the Académie de Médecine, MM. Metchnikoff and Roux communicated the results of recent experiments made to show that the inoculation of man with the virus of syphilis is harmless if certain preliminary precautions are taken. Experiments on the monkey showed that rubbing in calomel ointment at the seat of inoculation of the virus prevented the development of syphilis if the inoculation is done a few hours after inoculation. Thirteen experiments on monkeys having given positive results, the authors considered an experiment on a human subject was permissible. A medical student, free from any syphilitic taint, either hereditary or acquired, offered himself for the experiment. He was inoculated with the virus from two hard chancres, one of eight to ten days' duration, the other a month old. The seat of inoculation was at the junction of the glands and prepuce. At the same time they inoculated with the same virus four macaques and one chimpanzee. One hour after the inoculation the medical student and one of the macaques were given an inoculation for eight minutes with calomel ointment 1 in 3. A second macaque received the same treatment after an interval of twenty hours. The two remaining macaques were kept to control the experiment, and did not receive any treatment. These two animals developed the primary sore 17 days after inoculation. The