

tigations, the results of which demonstrate conclusively its value in the treatment of many diseases of the skin, and indicate the possibility of its occupying a still more prominent position in this connection in the future.

For convenience one may roughly classify the various conditions of the skin in which the use of radium is of service into:

1. What the French call "Dermatoses," a term which includes the eczemas, psoriasis, pruritus, etc.
2. Inflammatory and parasitic conditions such as acne vulgaris, ringworm, sycosis, lupus vulgaris.
3. The vascular new growths—nevi and angiomas.
4. Other new growths, benign and malignant, such as warts, moles, rodent ulcer, epithelioma, sarcoma.

*Analgesic Action of Radium.*—Owing to the analgesic and congestive properties of the radium its beneficial effect is very marked in pruritus ani, and considerable relief is also given in pruritus vulva and pruritus of the scrotum. The obstinate resistance of many cases of pruritus to all ordinary methods of treatment is well known, but radium has given extraordinary results, the improvement in some instances being apparently permanent. The intolerable itching ceases within one or two days after irradiation, and Wickham and Degrais report two cases in which cure has persisted twelve and fifteen months respectively, Barcat, one which has been without recurrence for three years, and two which have remained cured for one year and eight months respectively. We can also report good results from the use of radiferous pomade in pruritus ani.

The analgesic action of radium also influences the severe pain which is often associated with herpes zoster. In such cases heavily screened plaques, applied for many hours in succession, are used to influence the deep branches of the nerve, whilst slightly screened plaques, applied for shorter periods, produce the desired effect on the superficial terminations of the nerve. Many cases are reported in which great relief was experienced within a few days after this treatment.

*Eczema.*—It has been demonstrated that radium has an action on the sensory, motor and trophic functions of the nervous system, and it is therefore obvious that it ought to exert a beneficial influence in eczema, which is characterized by trophic and sensory disturbances. It has naturally only been employed in obstinate forms of this condition, with the result that they have often been relieved when all other measures have failed. In chronic dry eczema great success has followed the applications for short periods at a time of