days and scabbing over; the last traces disappear in about a month. All these reactions appear within thirty-six hours; in a few instances Define has seen a "late reaction," a slight red papule forming after four or five days and lasting ten days or so. This he counts as a positive result. His inoculations (101 patients) produced no complications, no fever, and no discomfort beyond a slight itching in a few instances. He used "cutituberculin" from the Pasteur Institute at Lille, scarifying the skin in four places, not deeply enough to draw blood, inoculating two, and putting on a sterilized dressing. The skin was first cleaned with ether.—*British Medical Journal.*

The Relation of Alcohol to Immunity.

Parkinson reaches the following conclusions in an article contributed to the *Lancet* of November 2, 1909:

1. Alcohol in small quantities has no action upon the phagocytic activity.

2. It has no action on the phagocytic activity until it is present in 12.5 per cent. strength.

3. Small quantities of alcohol injected into rabbits may stimulate the production of antibodies temporarily.

4. A large dose of alcohol lowers the opsonic index for twenty-four hours.

5. Continuous moderate doses of alcohol cause a permanent lowering of the opsonic index.

6. The reacting mechanism to vaccines is much less effective in alcoholized rabbits than in normal rabbits; the difference is still more marked when living micro-organisms are used.—*Therapeutic Gazette.*

Caisson disease seems destined to be of increasing importance because the progress of civilization and the congestion of population are creating more and more need of tunnels and bridges, the construction of which requires the laborers to work in compressed air at great depths. The cause and prevention of the disease are well known, and yet, in spite of all precautions, cases continue to be produced and show the need of further investigation. It seems a simple matter, yet there are curious accidents proving that it is far from simple, and that there are individual as well as seasonal variations in susceptibility. Under compression more gases are dissolved in the blood, and if decompression is rapid, these gases must escape as when a champagne cork is withdrawn, and the bubbles of gas in unyielding cavities