

rheumatism, to conform to the rules that he has established for treatment. They must expect, according to him, from time and experience the modifications necessary in the choice of preparations and method of treatment.

At present, the observations collected by him prove that the salicylate of soda, administered in larger doses, produces the same effect as the acid itself.

The most remarkable effect of this remedy in rheumatic polyarthritis is not the lowering of temperature, but especially the soothing of the local pains. Nevertheless, in cases of rheumatism where no objective symptoms exist depending on the joints, and where the pain is purely subjective, the acid appears to Dr. Stricker to be contraindicated. Success, on the contrary, is not doubtful when there is swelling, redness, and heat of the joint.

As much as possible, the treatment should begin in the morning. The effect produced in the day will insure the patient a tranquil night.

In the practice of Prof. Traube, salicylic acid reduced to powder is employed. It is indispensable that it be pure, otherwise the effects of the medicine become hurtful: great irritation of the buccal, oesophagal, and stomachic mucous membranes is caused. This is due to foreign principles, particularly to phenol, mixed with the acid, which gives then a yellowish coloration, and a troubled solution. When absolutely pure it crystallizes in white brilliant needles, is inodorous, and completely soluble in water and alcohol.

The acid may be administered in large doses without causing inconvenience to the digestive tube. Applied to the mucous membrane of the mouth and pharynx, it produces a sensation of dryness, later a slight burning, and increases the secretions from these membranes.

Dr. Stricker recommends the administration of salicylic acid in powder, in the dose of one-half to one gramme every hour, in unleavened bread, and he has never seen the least injury follow. These doses are continued until the patient can move his joints without pain. The quantity of the medicine necessary is variable; it may range from five to fifteen grammes. The remedy acts more rapidly in proportion as the case is taken early. There is nothing to fear in exceeding the quantity of fifteen grammes when necessary: the digestive tube will not suffer from it. Dr. Stricker speaks of a patient who took, unknowingly, in the space of twelve hours, twenty-two grammes of the medicine, and felt no pain in the stomach; and very singularly, this energetic treatment cleaned the tongue and brought back his appetite. A large dose may be given once, and thus replace small ones, without causing the least danger to the patient; but experience has not yet taught us the limit beyond which it will be dangerous to pass.

There may occur, in the course of the treatment, perspiration,