

of the secondary infection may be a different organism from that producing the primary disease.

6. "The following organisms have been previously found in the *pia* exudate in cerebral meningitis: The pneumo-bacillus of Fränkel, the streptococcus pyogenes, bacillus typhosus, staphylococcus pyogenes, pneumo-bacillus of Friedlander, the bacillus of 'La Grippe' and the gonococcus." The author's observations have added two new ones, bacillus anthracis and bacillus coli communis.

7. "The pneumo bacillus of Fränkel is the most frequent cause of cerebral meningitis.

8. "The latter organism is a not infrequent cause of primary cerebral and cerebro-spinal meningitis, the lungs not being involved.

9. "The cases of meningitis due to different organisms do not show such constant differences from each other in the symptoms presented, as to make possible the clinical differentiation as to cause.

10 "The amount of exudation bears no constant relation to the severity of the symptoms.

11. "It is not possible to distinguish with certainty during life, cases of acute cerebral hyperæmia, with or without œdema, from cases of meningitis."

### THE RECENT MEDICAL COLLEGE DINNERS.

The time which has elapsed since the holding of this year's medical banquets renders it unnecessary for us to say more than that they came off with the usual *eclat*, *abandon*, etc.

Mr. George Elliott proved a very eloquent and admirable chairman at the Trinity banquet held at the Rossin House, Nov. 29th. The whole affair was the most enjoyable, and also reasonable dinner we have had the pleasure of attending.

The banquet of the students of the Medical Faculty of Toronto University, Chairman, W. T. McArthur, was held one week later, and was also a great success.

ANTIPRURITIC OIL.—Bronson's formula for an antipruritic oil is—

R.—Acidi carbolici . . . . .	3i.
Liq. potassæ . . . . .	3i.
Ol. lini . . . . .	3i.—M.

Sig.—Shake before using.

TREATMENT OF NEURASTHENIA.—Dr. Krauss, in the *Buffalo Med. and Surg. Jour.*, gives among the prominent symptoms of this disorder: Moroseness, fault-finding, dull aching in the occiput or at the vertex, and in the lumbar spinal region. Following these come tachycardia and palpitation, sinking spells, hot flushes, profuse perspirations on the face and extremities, indigestion, short attacks of jaundice, scanty secretion of urine of high specific gravity, temporary sexual impotence. Great stress is laid on the appearance in all cases, with vasomotor symptoms, of a dilatation of one pupil with a contracture of its fellow. The author thinks this due to derangement of the sympathetic nerve.

For treatment the cases are subdivided into (1) those with a lithæmic element; (2) those without a lithæmic element; (3) those with marked vasomotor disturbance. After trying to find and remove the cause of the disorder the asthenic cases of the first two divisions are ordered to take, before rising, two ounces of strong, black coffee, and in a half hour take a tepid sponge bath for about five minutes, then dress and take breakfast. The plethoric cases receive, instead of this, one-half ounce or one ounce of a saline cathartic, followed by a cold bath, and if possible a cold plunge. Just before retiring a warm general bath is taken. For from five to eight minutes a galvanic current is applied with the electrodes on the sacrum and the neck, then the positive pole is applied to the forehead and a weaker current turned on, and, finally, with the electrodes to the hands as strong a faradic current is applied as the patient can bear. This treatment is given once, twice, or thrice weekly; the severe cases receiving treatment three times weekly. Massage may be given also, the lithæmic cases receive after meals one to three tablets, each containing lithium carbonate, 3 grains; phosphate of iron, 1-3 grain; extract of nux vomica, 1-9 grain; arseniate of soda, 1-27 grain. The author claims that patients who seem unable to take iron in other forms use this tablet with benefit, and that it acts well also in cases of chronic rheumatism. Non-lithæmic cases are given bromides, hyoscyamus, tincture of nux vomica, albuminate of iron, phosphoric acid and pepsin. Trional in five or ten grain doses is the favorite hypnotic. Cases with vasomotor disturbances have been intractable and unsatisfactory.