

separation, and this must have been followed by a fatal septic peritonitis. In many cases of removal of a pyo-salpinx, especially when the adhesions are dense, he said, the shock is severe, although the patient is in a good condition and ready for the operation; in the present case the woman was already weakened and very ill as the result of some days' intestinal obstruction. The result of the operation was satisfactory, and the patient left the hospital three weeks after operation.—*Medical Press and Circular*.

The Causation of Epilepsy.

Heretofore great uncertainty prevailed as to the cause of epilepsy, but the investigations of Mr. Bea undoubtedly throw some light upon the subject. Numerous blood examinations show the constant presence in the blood of a minute parasite just before an attack. The parasite looks like a small point, which moves rapidly, and sometimes forms into chains which become attached to red corpuscles.—*Medical Record*.

Prophylactic Measures Against Venereal Diseases, Especially in the Army.

That venereal diseases are spreading with alarming rapidity among soldiers is an indisputable fact, especially well known to the army surgeons of every nation. Thus GOULADZE (*Russ. med. Rundschau*, No. 1) brings forward statistics proving that out of 900,000 men, embracing the total strength of the standing army of the Russian Empire, there were about 35,000 venereal cases. In speaking of prophylaxis, the author insists upon the physician gaining the patient's confidence, so that the full importance of the baneful disease is clearly and understandingly impressed upon the latter's mind. He especially deprecates the use of alcohol, as he finds that out of every ten cases of infection at least seven occurred while the patient was under the influence of Bacchus. Finally, he insists upon the observance of the following prophylactic measures: (1) Avoid sexual intercourse while under the influence of alcohol; (2) absolute abstinence in case any abrasion or erosion be detected on the membrum virile; (3) but one coitus at a time, for it has been proved beyond doubt that males are more readily exposed to infection who indulge in several connections at a seance; (4) anoint the penis just before the act with a thick layer of carbolated vaseline (four per cent.), and insist that your companion wash her genitalia with a three per cent. solution of carbolic acid; (5) after completion of the act wash the penis with soap and water, and a one-half per cent. solution of sublimate, or, when not at hand, with clean plain water, or with one's own urine.—*Medical News*.