

good cosmetic result. For small isolated nodules use has been made of applications of trichloroacetic acid, which is an agent of considerable value in such cases.

Nævi.—For small nævi destruction by caustic action is often the most convenient method of treatment. I refer to lesions so small as to perhaps deserve to be called telangiectases rather than nævi. There are one or two fairly prominent, dilated capillaries. It is recognized now, I think, almost universally, that no method of treating these vascular new growths can be compared for cosmetic result with the general obliteration of the vessels brought about by the proper use of radium. Some times for these very small points quick action is desired, and patients will not devote the time required for treatment. Electrolysis is used, but as a rule the resulting scar is far more disfiguring than the original mark. Solid carbon dioxide has its advocates, and certainly good results are obtained from its use. It is a painful procedure, however, and if too much pressure is applied great destruction of the tissues may be produced and considerable scarring result. Trichloroacetic acid in these cases acts well; it produces but slight pain during its application and the resulting scar is not disfiguring. One field where a wide sphere of usefulness exists is in the treatment of the telangiectases, which so often result after the use of X-ray. When destructive doses of X-ray have been used telangiectases, as it is very well known, are apt to develop.

The appearance of the part can be materially benefited by treatment of the dilated capillaries, which may be readily destroyed by applications of trichloroacetic acid, leaving a good cosmetic result. It is applicable also to condyloma and scar cicatrix.

Radium.—Speaking now more particularly of the use of radium in dermatology, one naturally turns at first to its value in the treatment of rodent ulcer, for of all forms of malignant disease this is the one in which radium is almost a specific. It was in the treatment of this disease that the therapeutic value of radium was first definitely established, and the way paved for the further research on its curative value in new growths.

A great number of cases of rodent ulcer have come under my observation in the last few years, and it is one of the most satisfactory things in the practice of medicine to note that the great majority respond readily to this treatment, and have remained cured over a period of years. It is true of course that certain cases do not respond as well as others. This is particularly so when all sorts of treatment, such as X-ray, CO₂, ionization, etc.,