

BIZZOZERO ON THE DIAGNOSTIC SIGNIFICATION OF THE ALVEOLAR EPITHELIUM OF THE LUNG IN SPUTUM.—The large granular epithelium that appears in sputum, the writer considers undoubtedly proceeds from the alveoli. He recalls the fact, that, in the alveoli there are two distinct kinds of epithelium, viz.: broad, squamal, and smaller, but thicker, and more granular cells. It is the latter class which undergoes rapid proliferation in inflammation, the other remaining unaltered. And it is the latter class that appears in the sputum. When present in large quantity, in abundant sputum they form a bad symptom, as indicating a general catarrh of the alveoli; but if in small quantity, they have no significance.—*Lond. Med. Record.*

LEAD COLIC.—M. Bernutz has been experimenting at La Charité with Malherbe's method of treating lead colic, a mode of treatment resuscitated by Picot, of Bordeaux.

Thirty years ago Malherbe basing his opinion upon a long series of cases, advocated the use of belladonna in massive doses in the treatment of lead colic. He found that the tolerance for this drug was in direct proportion to the intensity of the lead poisoning. Malherbe's plan was to give five centigrammes of extract belladonnæ every half hour until 20 or 25 centigrammes had been given. Concurrently he gave a purgative, as two drops of croton oil.

In M. Picot's observations the cure has been prompt, the constipation being overcome after the first day and the colic immediately calmed.

M. Bernutz has had to wait longer and in some cases was obliged the next day to recommence the treatment and in some cases with slight signs of atropinism.—*Gaz. des Hôp.*

PROGRESSIVE PERNICIOUS ANÆMIA.—Heitler, in *Wien. Med. Woch.*, gives two examples of progressive pernicious anæmia, in men respectively of 43 and 51 years. The only lesion found on careful *post-mortem* examination was an atrophied condition of the stomach walls, with hard contracted bands passing in various directions, and bounding the degenerated portions. This makes it an atrophic dyspepsia.

DEUKER'S TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.—In 24 years' experience in the Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Dr. Deuker has treated, says the *Medical Press*, upward of 2,000 cases of diphtheria, and having tried all remedies, internal and external, has preferred the following for the last ten years:—As soon as the white spots appear he gives a laxative mainly composed of senna which produces an abundant evacuation. After its effect has ceased, he gives cold drinks acidulated with hydrochloric acid, and every two hours a gargle composed of lime-water and hot milk in equal parts. When commenced early it is generally and rapidly successful.

THE CHLORATE AND THE CHLORIDE OF POTASSIUM.—The editor of the *Phila. Med. and Surg. Reporter* suggests that the discrepancy in the results of the use of this potash salt, here and on the Continent of Europe, as a gargle and mouth wash, especially in mercurial stomatitis, is due to the fact that we use the chlorate ($K Cl. O_3$) while there the chloride ($K Cl.$) is employed. Prof. Wertheim says the former in concentrated solution is poisonous, while the latter is innocuous, an analogue of common salt, a specific in sore throat, and especially in mercurial sore mouth.

INGWORM OF THE SCALP.—Dr. John Cavafy in *British Medical Journal*, recommends the employment of a solution of boracic acid, 20 grains in an ounce of spirit, to which a drachm of ether has been added. This lotion is to be forcibly rubbed into affected parts of scalp, with a rag, or moderately stiff brush, three times daily; the whole head being ordered to be washed every morning with plenty of hot-water and soap. Like all other parasiticide applications, this must be continued long after all signs of the disease have disappeared.

M. Baibier finds powdered-roasted coffee an excellent deodorizer and disinfectant. The coffee is simply scattered over and about the place or thing requiring disinfection. He has used it in autopsies and on bodies a stinking mass of putrefaction, also as a dressing to foul virulent ulcers.—*France Méd.*