

followed by a consideration of the condition in detail. Among the more prominent features were described the pallor of the parts—this depending, however, on the chronicity or acuteness of the attack, acute laryngitis presenting more inflammatory signs: swelling of the arytenoid cartilages and inter-arytenoidal space; other areas involved, ulceration and nodules. Regarding diagnosis the two principal diseases to exclude are syphilis and cancer. The symptoms giving rise to this complaint are hoarseness, pain on swallowing, paroxysmal cough and dyspnoea. For treatment fresh air is necessary. The most important remedies are (1) Lactic acid 10% applied on a cotton swab and the strength of solution gradually increased even up to 90%. (2) Menthol in 20% solution of olive oil or liquid vaseline. The sedatives which may be used are more especially cocaine, orthoform and morphia.

In the discussion which followed Dr. T. D. Walker referred to tracheotomy in tubercular laryngitis and reported a successful case.

Dr. Melvin spoke of the use of codeia.

October 25.—A case of congenital absence of anterior bladder wall and dorsum of penis was shown by Dr. John Berryman.

Dr. Ellis exhibited a case of hypertrophy of lingual tonsil—the main symptom in which was a peculiar paroxysmal cough.

A paper on "Eczema" by Dr. Melvin was then read. The importance of recognizing the various forms and also the various stages of the disease was pointed out. Two characteristics were mentioned as essential in eczema: inflammation and fluid exudation. The latter is not always present but is never wanting in some stage of the disease. There are several bases for classification such as pathological, etiological, anatomical. The most practical is the first mentioned under which are the varieties (a) vesicular, (b) pustular, (c) papular, (d) erythematous and the squamous as a sub-variety of the latter.

Dr. Melvin intimated that in St. John eczema formed about one-fifth of all skin cases.

Treatment.—As eczema is a self-limited disease with a direct tendency to recovery, all that is necessary is to eliminate the cause. Local irritation is almost always present. Avoid this irritation and then protect the skin. The solution of subacetate of lead in fresh milk is frequently useful. Constitutional disturbances are not considered as important factors as formerly and we have eczema existing as a skin disease pure and simple. However in selected cases, Fowler's solution, sulphate of magnesia, antimony, etc., are of service.