

Selections.

Duration of Immunization after Injection of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Sittler states that the protection conferred lasts for three or five weeks, or more, when the immunized children are not in frequent contact with diphtheria patients or convalescents. When they are with them constantly the immunization cannot be relied on for more than from ten to fourteen days. Catarrhal affections of any kind and injuries of the mucosæ afford a strong predisposition for diphtheria, even in immunized children, which is able at times to shorten materially the period of protection conferred by the injection of antitoxin. After diphtheria plus injection of antitoxin, the child is liable to contract the disease again, if opportunity offers, as soon as after injection of antitoxin alone. General exanthemata resembling scarlet fever, even when they run an afebrile course and the throat is not much affected, must be regarded as genuine scarlet fever in the majority of cases. It is wiser to take proper measures for isolation rather than to submit the child to repeated injections of diphtheria antitoxin, for fear of developing the phenomenon of "anaphylaxis," or oversusceptibility. The communication issues from Koht's pediatric clinic at Strasburg.
—J. A. M. A.

Physiology and Pathology of the Thymus.

Basch gives the findings in 64 illustrations on a dozen plates showing the effects of removal of the thymus on the growth of animals, also on the healing of fractures and other injuries of the bones. The results all indicate a connection between normal growth of the bones and the functioning of the thymus. When the growth is defective, at an age when the thymus is still progressively developing, the deficiency in growth may be due to some disturbance in the functioning of the thymus, and the development of the thymus should be studied with greater care.
—*Jahrbuch f. Kinderheil, and J. A. M. A.*

Röntgen Treatment of Leukemia and Pseudoleukemia.

Joachim relates the details of 28 cases, and discusses the various aspects of Röntgen treatment, and the results to be anticipated. He thinks that a cure is out of the question, but that in many cases the improvement is such as to restore the feeling of health for years. The fact that Röntgen treatment does not help in all cases, and may do harm in some, is a fea-