

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Bulletin of the Ontario Hospitals for the Insane.

The object of this publication is clearly indicated by its title. The number before us contains many short articles which can but be of decided value to all who have anything to do with the care of the insane at home as well as in institutions.

The paper entitled "Home Treatment" contains useful suggestions to the general practitioner in reference to a variety of procedures of vital importance to the welfare of the insane at home. The methods of forced feeding by means of the nasal tube through the nares or by the stomach tube through the oesophagus, the use of the hot wet-pack with cold applications to the head in cases of excitement, the avoidance of restraint, the importance of rest in bed and the inadvisability of the use of hypnotics except as a last resort, are suggestions which are modern and in the line of the best practice. There is also a good account of the use of the continuous bath and an illustration showing its water supply and extra large overflows. A summary of the autopsy findings at Rockwood Hospital is not without interest. Of 417 deaths 118, or 28.3 per cent., were from tuberculosis, or its immediate complications. "Gall-stones were found in 15 cases, either in the gall-bladder, cystic, or common ducts, but in only two (3?) cases have their presence produced serious effects. . . . No instance of renal or vesical calculus occurred in the series. "Contrary to expectation very few foreign bodies were noted, none at all being found in the stomach. In two cases death followed the lodgment of foreign bodies in the oesophagus opposite the cricoid cartilage (Nos. 15 and 67). In case No. 65 a pin and piece of wooden skewer (2 inches long) were found in the duodenal wall and head of the pancreas, and another pin in the peritoneal covering of the anterior wall of the uterus. Case 76 (a tuberculosis subject), however, presented a very curious condition; the appendix was enlarged to one inch in diameter for the last inch-and-a-half, and in its lumen were found 48 common pins, all considerably rusted, and the heads of all pointing towards the tip of the appendix, also three pebbles, and a triangular piece of glass, the whole being set in a mass of mucus impregnated with calcareous salts." In a paper "On Diphtheroid Bacilli," the statement is made that but six cases of General Paresis were found among the 600 inmates of Rockwood Hospital,