

truss is not worn till the age of three or four, it should be worn till the child is ten years of age. If not worn till the age of seven, the truss should be worn till puberty. Statistics show that large numbers of these ruptured children are cured by the truss.

*Operative Treatment* should be undertaken in the following classes of cases :

- (a) Irreducible omentum.
- (b) Irreducible omentum with fluid in the sac.
- (c) Congenital hydrocele.
- (d) Strangulated hernia.
- (e) Where there is fluid in a hernia sac.
- (f) When proper treatment is impossible owing to incompetence or ignorance of the mother.
- (g) Where a truss has been worn for 3 or 4 years without benefit.

*Conclusions.*—1. That hernia, in infants, if properly treated, is a curable lesion.

2. Where there is a family history of hernia, preventive measures should be employed as early as possible.

3. Circumcision will not cure hernia.

4. Cases requiring operation are rare.

5. Hernia generally occurs at an age ill-suited for operation, and if properly treated is usually cured before any question of operation arises.

## ✓ THERAPEUTICS.

IN CHARGE OF GRAHAM CHAMBERS AND J. T. FOTHERINGHAM.

### Ichthalbumin.

The *Brit. Med. Jour.* of Sept. 2nd, 1899, has an interesting *précis* of Hamburger's paper in *Therap. Monatsch.*, July, 1899, upon this new drug. It is a combination of albumin with ichthyol, analogous to tannalbumin. The observations on which the paper was based were conducted in Neumann's *Poliklinik*, in Berlin. About 60 children were treated for various conditions, with about 1,000 grains. The dosage is, for infants under six months,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  grains, thrice daily; in the second half-year, 2 to 3 grains; in the second year, 3 to 4 grains; after three years of age, 7 or 8 grains may be given by increasing the initial dose, and after ten years, 15 grains. It should be given before meals, and best in powdered chocolate, equal parts. It is said to be free from poisonous properties.

The diseased conditions for which it was used were diseases of the skin, particularly eczema, and acute and subacute intestinal catarrh. In eczema it was found that while local treatment was necessary on account of the fact that the irritation