

THE INFLUENCE OF THE RONTGEN RAYS ON THE EYE.

At a recent meeting of the Paris Société de médecine et de chirurgie pratiques (*Presse médicale*, June 30th), M. Bardet, who had been much occupied with Röntgen-ray examinations, reported that he had suffered with impaired vision accompanied by scotomata, and that M. Meyer, whom he had consulted, had observed in both eyes traces of extravasation and a congested state of the retina, which he attributed to the action of the rays.

INHALATION OF FORMALIN FOR CATARRH.

J. Lardner Green (*Brit. Med. Jour.*), after accepting the theory of the presence of micrococci in all catarrhal affections, advocates as the most rational treatment the use of germicidal remedies; and as the most direct method, the careful inhalation of these remedies, either in the form of gas or vapor. He says the best results have been from the vapor of formalin, one or two drops being placed inside a Jeffrey's respirator. If the disease is in the acute stage, one drop will suffice at a time. He strongly advises a trial of formalin in the early stages of tuberculosis of the lungs. It will usually be found under the microscope that the number of both the *micrococcus pneumoniae* and also of the *bacillus tuberculosis* which is constantly to be found in the sputum will be rapidly lessened. Of course every subsidiary aid, in the way of tonic medicines, judicious diet, and hygiene, require to be carefully attended to.

THE SPITTING NUISANCE.

It is reported that the City Council of Springfield, Mass., has passed an ordinance prohibiting spitting upon the sidewalks. As we noted last week, a beginning has at last been made in this city in the enforcement of the rule against spitting, the notices of which for so long afforded amusement to the street car conductors and elevated railroad guards. The

"Medical News" says that a well-known Chicago lawyer, of prominent social and political position, has been arrested for expectorating in a street car. He threatens to sue the company for \$50,000 damages. "The Sanitarian" says that among the suggestions made at St. Louis, on account of the difficulty in the enforcement of the order of the health department against spitting on the floors of cars, one is that a few cars be run over the lines with the placard "spitters' cars" on their sides.—*Medical Record*.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the Mississippi Valley Medical Association will be held in Louisville, on October 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1897. All railroads will offer reduced rates. The president, Dr. Thos. Hunt Stuey, and the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, Dr. H. Horace Grant, promise that the meeting will be the most successful in the history of the Association, and this promise is warranted by the well-known hospitality of Louisville and Kentucky doctors. Titles of papers should be sent to the secretary, Dr. H. W. Loeb, 3559, Olive street, St. Louis.

A drawback to the bicycle hygiene, which is seldom thought of, is thus described by the *Buffalo Medical Journal*:—"Another series of disturbances arise from the continuous strain or tension of the rider to keep the wheel erect. The tension is not so very pronounced at any one time, but exists as long as the wheelman is astride his wheel, and the long continuance acts to disadvantage. To ride a wheel safely calls forth a double strain, a general one on the nerves and a particular one on the balancing centre. The latter strain is as injurious as the former and a long train of nervous symptoms, neurasthenic in character, is the result. The 'bicycle face' is the expression of riders who suffer from these nervous incidents."