

Cut a disc of very thick filtering paper larger than the circumference of the mouth of the bottle, and cover it therewith. The disc becomes saturated with the syrup, and as the syrup is reduced in volume by cooling, the discs are forced into the necks of the bottles by atmospheric pressure. The syrup taken up by the filtering paper soon evaporates, leaving a crust of sugar which hermetically stops the bottle, preventing admission of germs and rendering fermentation impossible. When the syrup is to be used, the sugar and filter-paper disc may be cut out with a knife.

2. Fruit juices may also be preserved by filling the cleared juices into long-necked, dried bottles, then heating them to 70 (158 F.), pouring a little alcohol on top and corking quickly. The alcohol evaporates and drives the air out of the neck.

3. To each 4½ litre (1 gallon) of juice, add a teaspoonful of the following mixture :

Boric acid...	6 parts.
Borax.....	3 "
Sugar.....	3 "
Glycerine....	2 "

—(Condensed Extracts).

UTERINE MYOMA.

447. ELECTRICITY. — Schaeffer (*Therapeutische Monatshefte*, September, 1892) reports the results of treating 48 cases of uterine myoma by the electrical method, which the author thinks is singularly proper to be relegated to the general practitioner, as it requires neither special technical nor theoretical acquirements. The only difficulty presented is in the diagnosis.

In employing electricity the author adheres to the essentials of Apostoli's method. He considers them as follows :

a. The highest possible current strength, *i.e.*, as strong as the patient can bear without decided pain. Schaeffer employs at least 70 milliamperes, and often increases them to 230 m. a.

b. The abdominal electrode must be as large as possible (600 square centimetres), as thereby the pain to the skin is reduced.

c. The treatment must be continued persistently. Apostoli has shown that the seances necessarily must be very many (up to 50), therefore it is unjust to speak of negative results after 3 or 4 ineffectual sittings. 20 sittings are a moderate number, and often suffice.

d. The active electrode must be employed as an intra-uterine sound. Even when its introduction is difficult, Schaeffer reprobates vaginal puncture, as it is not free from danger.

Schaeffer deems the following as non-essentials in Apostoli's method:—

a. The selection of the metal of the intra-uterine sounds. He uses aluminium.

b. The material of which the abdominal electrode is made, as it may consist of Potter's clay or a moss-pillow covered with linen. The author uses the latter.

c. Painfully exact antiseptics of the cervix, so strongly urged by Apostoli, is not essential. The author deems it not only unnecessary, but liable to produce recurrence of perimetric processes, as a consequence of the mechanical traction stringent antiseptics implies.

Concerning the results, the author says that he never observed reduction in the size of the myoma. If, however, Apostoli's method cannot be deemed a means of radical cure, it possesses excellent palliative value, and, as uterine myoma itself requires no treatment except for the sufferings it produces, palliative and symptomatic results fully suffice.

Schaeffer excludes 12 of his 48 cases from conclusions, as they are not available for statistical purposes. In one of these the diagnosis was erroneous (ovarian tumor); in seven, electricity had been applied twice to four times, and in four, six to nine times. The reasons for premature desistance from the treatment were partly extraneous, partly due to impatience of the patients or alleged excessive painfulness. Schaeffer groups the remaining 36 cases thus :

Twenty cases of symptomatic cure. The symptoms of disease disappeared entirely. The periods of observation after cure vary between 5 months and 3½ years.

Six cases of decided improvement. The most striking results in these were cessation of hæmorrhages. Some discomforts remained, hence the author does not deem himself justified to speak of them as cured.

Three cases of slight success.

Two cases of negative results.

Five cases grew worse under treatment. The five were sub-mucous myomata. The longer they were electrized the stronger the bleedings became. They were subsequently enucleated, after dilating the os with laminaria. The author consequently asserts as a principle, that the electric current is contra-indicated in intra-uterine tumors.—(Condensed Extracts.)

ARSENIC ; SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

Hirschsohn (*Der Pharmaceut*, October 16, 1892) reports a quantity of freshly pulverized metallic arsenic placed in two paper bags and packed into a chip basket with straw. On account of pressure of other work, the package was left until the following morning.

The peculiar garlic-like burning odor observed on entering the room caused a search to be made, which yielded that the bags containing the arsenic were entirely carbonized, the arsenic converted into firm, glowing hot balls, and a second paper covering, in which the