

deeper tissues; they do not give rise to chronic conjunctivitis. The bacilli appear as very short fine rods staining less deeply than the nuclei of the cells. The ends are rounded and also show a deeper polar stain. I have a specimen under the microscope for your observation.

The treatment of this form of conjunctivitis consists in the application of nitrate of silver, 2 per cent. solution, or the 3 per cent. solution of largin.

Entirely distinct from this form is a chronic variety of catarrhal conjunctivitis affecting mainly the conjunctiva of the lids and especially well marked at the inner and outer canthi; this disease sometimes goes by the name of angular conjunctivitis; there is a slight mucous secretion, the conjunctival papillæ are not swollen, the inner canthus and the lid margins are markedly red; in time the roots of the cilia become affected, as does also the tarsus; the cilia then fall out and the lid margins curl inwards. It occurs at all ages but more especially in adults, and is most frequently met with during the months of June, July and August. Superficial infiltration of the cornea occurs and sometimes even severe purulent spreading ulcers are found which bear a marked similarity to the malignant *ulcus serpens*.

In 1896, Morax and Axenfeld both discovered a diplo-bacillus which by a series of exhaustive investigations they found to be the cause of this disease. The bacilli are large, 2 micromillimeters by 1, and generally occur in pairs and chains; they are decolourised by Gram's method after staining with gentian violet. The disease is very infectious and the bacilli retain their virulence for a long time.

It has been found that solutions of sulphate of zinc have almost a specific action in the cure of this disease, and this may be freely applied even when ulcerations of the cornea arise. The zinc salt is used in a solution varying in strength from a half to one per cent, up to 2 per cent., the milder collyria being reserved for those cases exhibiting the greatest irritation. It has also been found that the solutions of silver salts appear to be inert in the treatment of this condition. I might cite as an example of the action of this drug, even in severe ulcers, one case, several of which have lately come under my observation. The patient had developed an ulcer in the cornea, probably of traumatic origin, for which he had been treated at his home in the country near Montreal. He thought that his eye had been scratched