Selections.

Treatment of Angina Pectoris.

Lyon writes in the Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-Chirurgical on this theme. For the treatment of the attack itself, rest, the inhalation of five or six drops of nitric of amyland a hypodermic injection of the agrain of nitroglycerin are to be resorted to. To overcome the syncope ether, caffeine or camphorated oil, the latter in ten-per-cent. strength, are to be employed. Friction should also be applied to the limbs, and, should there be evidences of pulmonary involvement, venesection must be practised, while if respiration fails rhythmic tractions of the tongue must be performed. Injections of morphine are contraindicated in such cases. In those cases in which the neuritis is apparently due to the involvement of the cardiac plexus, morphine may be admissible. Fifteen to forty-five-grain doses of antipyrin may be given by the stomach or by rectal injection, or smaller amounts of phenacetine may be used, and to the point of pain chloride of ethyl spray may be applied.

For the treatment between the attacks care should be taken that exercise does not immediately follow a meal and that sudden motions are avoided. Mild exercise should be taken, but cold baths are not advisable. Smoking should be refrained from. Massage and friction of the right chest with alcoholic liquids may be resorted to. In regard to the diet, the patient should refrain from all rich dishes and fermented drinks, and tea, coffee and alcohol, and should live largely upon milk, eggs, green vegetables, and properly cooked fresh meats. Water should be taken at each meal. For two or three weeks out of every month 30 or 40 grains of iodide of potassium should be taken a day, and for the remaining days of the month 100 of a grain of nitroglycerin may be similarly taken. Sometimes it is wise to increase the dose of the latter drug. It is also suggested that counter-irritation should be applied in the form of a hot iron over the precordial region every eight days.

Where there is feebleness of the heart due to myocarditis a combination of digitalis and nitroglycerin is of value.

For the treatment of false angina or cardialgia the medication should consist in nitrite of amyl, antipyrin, bromide of potassium, and applications of ether or chloride of ethyl vapor to the pericardium.

A useful prescription is one composed of Hoffmann's anodyne,