

cases of dropsy. He found, as others have found, that it is only in dropsy of cardiac origin that this agent is to be relied upon to produce diuresis. Its diuretic action in these cases is first noticed usually from two to four days after it is given, and lasts from three to five days, exceptionally two to three weeks. In eight of the forty-eight cases stomatitis and diarrhoea set in. In only one instance did the stomatitis prove troublesome. He looks upon a combination with small doses of opium (gr. 1-6) as in a measure preventive of the diarrhoea and stomatitis. For the prevention of the latter, nothing is, however, equal to the frequent washings of the mouth and especially the gums with an antiseptic solution. He recommends doses of from two to three grains four times in the twenty-four hours. Sygmographic tracings of the pulse did not show any change from the normal. As far as we are able to judge at present, the action of calomel is solely on the epithelial structures of the kidneys.

THE UNTOWARD EFFECTS OF ANTIPYRIN.

Recent experience tends to prove that occasionally very unpleasant and even serious effects follow the use of antipyrin when administered either for its antipyretic or analgesic action. In the January number of *Heitler's Centralblatt für Therapie* there is a reference to a paper by Prof. Drasche of Vienna on this subject. He has found nausea and even vomiting not infrequently. These symptoms are especially frequent in women, and occur occasionally when the drug is given by the rectum, showing that it induces vomiting either reflexly or directly by being eliminated by the mucous membrane of the stomach.

Skin rashes are not uncommon, the most frequent form being miliaria alba. Petechial spots have been noticed, especially where the drug has been employed as an antipyretic in typhoid fever.

In typhoid, pneumonia and tuberculosis, profuse sweating is frequently seen. This symptom is not of serious import unless attended by a marked fall in the blood pressure. Drasche has observed marked collapse in several cases from even moderate doses.