

cation. It occurred in 5.8 per cent. of the cases. There was pleurisy with effusion in 5 per cent., and pericarditis in 2.2 per cent. The cases occurring in summer appear to have been more benign than those of other seasons, for, though they represent 16.16 per cent. of the morbidity, they give only 8.51 per cent. of the deaths.—*Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.*

### Creosote in Phthisis.

Creosote in *phthisis* is the subject of a recent paper by Dr. I. H. Hance, of Lakewood, N.J. He holds that its chief beneficial action comes from its antifermentative power in the stomach and bowels, and not in any antitubercular power it possesses; that too large doses are injurious instead of beneficial, and should be avoided. If given in proper amounts it improves the patient's appetite and digestion, so that in this way it brings about a condition of general improvement. The author states that creosote is to-day the most widely used drug in the treatment of *phthisis pulmonalis*, and he advises the use of only pure beechwood creosote, and for a long period of time. It should be begun with quite small doses once or twice a day, well diluted, and on a full stomach. He advises against its combination with other drugs, particularly cod-liver oil. The urine should be watched during its administration.

Creosote and whiskey, equal parts, mixed in half a tumbler of water or milk, is well tolerated by the stomach. Capsules packed lightly with bismuth carbonate will permit the depositing of 3 or 4 drops of creosote in them before being capped. Then the physician can use two capsules for doses of 6 or 8 drops instead of crowding the full dose into one capsule, and can readily explain to a patient how this is done, and its economy. See that the capsule is swallowed with a considerable amount of fluid. These capsules can be prepared more satisfactorily by the pharmacist. Mixed with a little glycerin and tincture of gentian, creosote can readily be given. Six to eight drops taken after each meal is the limit. Begin with 1 or 2 drops and increase 1 drop every third or fourth day until the maximum dose is reached.

Creosote carbonate has been much used by the author in the past five years; it is well tolerated by the stomach and has given satisfactory results. The doses, up to twenty-five drops, after each meal, should be given in milk or soft gelatin capsules. One objection is that this drug is expensive. Pills of creosote, or creosote carbonate capsules, made by the wholesale, become old and hard and have been known to pass undissolved through the alimentary canal.

When creosote is tolerated it is indicated in any form of tubercular affection of the lungs, but more particularly in afe-