

Below is an extract of the paragraph on creasote :

Creasote has been used both by inhalation and also by the mouth. The method by inhalation for the purpose of destroying the life of the bacillus is now obsolete. If when used in this way it exercises any influence whatever, it is by relieving the bronchial secretion. Dr. Fyffe, of Victoria Park Hospital, London, has shown by infecting the sputum of patients into guinea pigs, before and after the inhalation of creasote, that it exercises no influence whatever on the virulence of the bacillus.

Creasote when taken by the mouth appears to exercise a very beneficial influence. Dr. Fyffe made experiments with the sputum of patients taking creasote by the mouth and showed that the bacillus become less virulent under its influence ; the larger the dose the less virulent the bacillus. He gave from two to twelve minims three times a day.

Dr. Douglas Powell says, "In cases of acute phthisis, when the acute phase has passed, in cases also of more advanced disease when the period of hectic has either passed or has much lessened in activity, preparations of creasote and its congeners, especially guaiacol, are of distinct value."

Dr. Semon, of St. Thomas Hospital, says, "That the constitutional treatment by large doses of creasote cannot claim in any way, so far as my experience is concerned, to be looked upon as a true specific against tuberculosis, but it can be positively stated from a large experience, both in hospital and even more in private practice, in which the patients more strictly attend to their health, that as a symptomatic treatment it excels, at present, every other form known. The patients gain in weight, their appetites improve, the night sweats diminish, the expectoration becomes less purulent, and in a good many cases, especially if not coming under observation at too late a period, the disease actually appears to become arrested. It is absolutely necessary first, that the creasote preparation should be perfectly pure ; and secondly, that the capsules or pills be taken immediately after meals.

The Absorbable Ligature in Abdominal Surgery.—Dr. M. V. MANN read a paper on this subject. He said while there had been various methods used in the past in the treatment of the pedicle, at present all abdominal surgeons used the ligature. Mr. Lawson Tait, however, had attempted to revive the method used by Keith—cauterization of the pedicle. Mr. Tait's objections to the ligature were that he believed that it led to the formation of broad-ligament hæmatocele, and that in three or four per cent. of cases, the stump and ligature appeared to