

stinging sensations on back," "Disagreeable and indefinite sensations about the hands and feet." They are conditions which usually do not affect consciousness, but, owing to his depression, he both becomes hypersensitive to these stimuli and his threshold of consciousness is lowered.

The pains are bizarre and characteristic and form for each patient a symptom complex.

Dana has opened out a splendid field for the observant physician; begin and take an interest in the multitudinous pains of your psychoneurotic patients.

G. W. H.

The Scientific Evidence of the Possibility of Intestinal Antisepsis.

By HORTIO C. WOOD, JR., M.D. *Therapeutic Gazette.*

Can the bowel be rendered aseptic? This is a most important question, to which Dr. Wood replies negatively, but claims it is possible to greatly reduce bacterial growth, especially by beta naphthol and creosote. Two factors are of importance, namely: (1) Can an intestinal antiseptic in non-toxic dose influence bacteria in a volume of fluid equal to that of the bowel? and (2) Will such a drug remain sufficiently long in the intestines to perform this effect?

If one admits the bowel content at 4,000 cc., it would require an ounce of phenol or salicylic acid; so that asepsis is impossible, but mild antisepsis possible. Similarly, no drug remains for a long period in the bowel. Yet some delay sufficiently to allow their antibacterial influence to occur. Gross, however has a special duodenal tube which enters the duodenum and removes the contents from that viscus. Blood droplets may be found on examining the material, and yet more interesting is the fact that on blowing down the tube the patient may be conscious of a slight sensibility. (This fact is of interest to those who deny intestinal sensation.)

Chemical examination for blood was negative in the cases examined by Gross, but the Benzidin test succeeded once where the aloin and guaiac failed. The micro-chemical tests (Teichmann's crystals) were always successful.

G. W. H.

The Diagnosis of Gastric Carcinoma by the Cleavage of Polypeptides. By I. WALKER HALL, M.D. (VICT.), and G. SCOTT WILLIAMSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (EDIN.). *The Lancet.*

This new test for cancer originated by Neuland has already been described in this paper. Hall and Williamson advise its use,