

up to the crisis the eosinophiles are absent. In congenital syphilis the absolute number of leucocytes was increased, but this number was mainly in small lymphocytes, the eosinophiles were increased to 14 per cent., a few nucleated red corpuscles were present, and always normoblasts and megablasts; Elnich's myelocytes were frequent. Certain complications, as supuration of the ear, increased the polynuclears. In measles at times the polynuclears fell with the fever.

gastric nerve terminals. It also acts as a carminative. In beginning catarrh of the respiratory tract by rubbing a few drops on the hand and inhaling it, good results are obtained, likewise in deposits on the throat and tonsils the local application cleans without injury or causing pain, probably due to the bacteriacidal power of the menthol. It has also been recommended as a disinfectant for the skin.

VALIDOL, AN ANALEPTIC AND ANTIHYSTERIC.

SCHWERSSENSKI.—Validol, an analeptic and antihysteric. (*Therap. Monats.*, 1897, p. 604). In looking over the camphor-like bodies for an analeptic, menthol, from its wide therapeutic use, was selected, and to avoid its local irritating action was combined with valerianic acid. The author had previously noticed that the administration of valerianate of bismuth combined with menthol was very efficient in persistent painful gastric affections, while other bismuth salts, with or without menthol, were inefficacious. The new preparation consists of a chemically pure combination of menthol and valerianic acid, mixed with a little free menthol to increase its stimulating action, usually 30 per cent. is the most suitable. It is a clear, colorless fluid, of about the consistency of glycerine, with a mild refreshing cool bitter taste, and as it readily dissolves menthol may serve as a convenient vehicle for it. Unlike most analeptics it is also a stomachic, and while it has a local stimulating action yet is non-irritating. As a stimulant it may be used in from 10 to 15 gtt. on sugar. In hysteria and its complications it is useful, not only because of its harmlessness, but also because the stage of stimulation is not followed by depression. Its stomachic value is probably due partly to the antiseptic and anti-fermentative action of the menthol, and partly to a direct action on the

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STUDY OF THE HEPATITIS.

ROVIGHI.—Contributions to the study of the hepatitis from intestinal auto-intoxication. (*Il Morgagni*, 1897, p. 666). Having observed six cases of cirrhosis in persons who were unaffected with alcoholism, malaria or syphilis, but who had been affected with serious troubles of the intestinal functions, especially constipation, the author endeavored to ascertain the action of the intestinal poisons upon the liver. In acute poisoning with indol and scatol he found a marked dilatation of the portal vessels and of the central lobular veins, while in more chronic poisoning, especially with indol, the hepatic cell protoplasm became more granular, the nuclei swelled or became double, around the vessels and in the intercellular spaces a slight connective tissue infiltration occurred, and in the epithelium of the renal tubules there was an accumulation of yellowish granules. In acute poisoning with phenol there was considerable congestion of the hepatic vessels and in the chronic form, slight alterations of the hepatic cell protoplasm, a thickening of the walls of the perilobular veins with slight connective tissue infiltration.

PHOTO-THERAPEUTICS OF LUPUS VULGARIS.

FINSEN.—Photo-therapeutics of lupus vulgaris. (*La semaine méd.*, 1897, 59.) The fact that light acts markedly bacteriacidal led the author to study