

broncho- or catarrhal pneumonia followed etherization, but Prescott states that in looking over a large series of records he found that croupous pneumonia was a very extraordinary sequela.

We can readily understand why it is that broncho-pneumonia and catarrhal pneumonia so frequently follow etherization, since the chilling of the lungs as well as the entire body in association with great irritation of the mucous membrane of the bronchial tubes and smaller air-passages readily results in congestion, stasis, and a certain amount of consolidation. The frequency with which croupous pneumonia is produced by etherization must depend almost entirely upon the presence or absence of the infectious micro-organism which is now recognized as the cause of this disease. While at the present time clinicians are practically in accord that exposure to cold itself cannot alone produce pneumonia, they also believe that the exposure to cold may so decrease the vital resistance of the patient that the micro-organism of pneumonia, which was formerly unable to produce a pathological process, finds a suitable field for its growth and multiplication. In an earlier number of the *Gazette* we called attention in a leading article to the very great loss of bodily temperature which is apt to ensue during and after the administration of ether, and it seems to us self-evident that both the broncho, catarrhal, and croupous forms of this disease might in a certain proportion of cases be prevented by the maintenance of bodily heat during, as well as after, the operation. Even if this be done, the irritation of the respiratory passages by the vapor of the ether may be quite sufficient to cause the irritation which opens the way for the infectious process.

The answer which Prescott believes is the correct one to the question which heads this editorial is that ether very rarely acts as the exciting cause of acute lobar pneumonia, and therefore even when this disease occurs it must be regarded rather as a coincidence than as the outcome of cause and effect.—*Ed. Therap. Gaz.*

MEDICAL NOTES

Salicylate of soda is recommended by Chibret in Basedow's disease as being quick and lasting in beneficial effects.

It is stated that the best remedy for bed-wetting in children is Normal Liquid Ergot.

A mild gargle will usually be more beneficial in simple pharyngitis than a markedly astringent one.

The oil of eucalyptus will be found very useful in some forms of rheumatic headache, or in cases of headache due to malarial fever.

There is perhaps no one remedy which is so efficient in all cases of asthma, regardless of their source, as sodium iodide.

Dr. Weill claims that every form of vomiting during gestation, can be relieved by a twenty per cent. solution of menthol in olive oil; dose, ten drops on sugar whenever nausea appears.

Dr. Elmer Lee, of Chicago, claims that hydrozone is better than peroxide of hydrogen for internal administration, he having given both in a large number of cases of typhoid fever.

Dr. Roberts Bartholow gives papain in ten grain doses t.i.d. for tapeworm.

Fifteen-grain doses of salipyrine is advised in the treatment of menorrhagia of the climacteric.

Salicylate of strontium is considered one of the best intestinal antiseptics in doses of five grains. In doses of ten to fifteen grains it acts decidedly in gouty and chronic rheumatic conditions.

Methylene blue applied to abrasions of the os uteri by means of a cotton probang, is an effectual remedy.

For erysipelas, paint the parts with ichthyol with a little carbolic acid. It will relieve the pain, protect the parts, and check the progress of the disease.—*Med. Summary.*

THE ECONOMICS OF PROSTITUTION.—(*The Medical News*).—At the recent meeting of the American Academy of Medicine in Baltimore, Dr. Woods Hutchison, of Des Moines, Iowa, said that reproduction is heaven's first law. "Be fruitful and multiply" is the first commandment in Genesis, and yet every religious or moral code has inveighed against the sexual instinct. It is hard to control, but instead of being degrading it is of the highest rank and holiest nature. Upon this foundation are built the whole of morality and the social instincts; the family is the nucleus of civilization.

And yet everything connected with the sexual instinct is tabooed in polite society. Modesty affects to ignore its existence. Boys and girls are kept in disgraceful ignorance of one of their most important functions. From this arise many forms of vice. The second evil influence of this denunciation and taboo is to destroy the feeling of obligation to bear children. Married men and women are either refusing or limiting their output to two or three. This is the fruitful source of prostitution, abortionism, onanism, and mental and moral degeneracy. Parents need training as well as children, and no man's or woman's education is more than half completed without such education.

What, then, is the excuse for this ban which has been laid on the sexual instinct? Its excesses