

struction of nuclein ; uric acid is derived from this. If a stagnation occurs of the body fluids which are rich in uric acid, there is an attack of gout. Diabetes stands in relation to gout, and gout may accompany obesity. Indeed, all three diseases may follow each other. Diabetes more often than gout may develop in thin individuals, and then usually in its worst forms. Ebstein looks upon these diseases as due to some defect in the protoplasm of the body. It has been shown that diabetics exhale as much carbon dioxide as healthy individuals only when the carbo-hydrates in the diet are limited. Even if in diabetes there is a suppression of some function of the pancreas, this in itself would exercise a damaging influence upon the protoplasm.—*Medical Review*.

SENILE PRURITUS.

Professor Parisot, of Nancy, considering that auto-intoxication plays an essential *role* in the ætiology of generalised senile pruritus, has recourse to intestinal antiseptics in the treatment of this obstinate affection. After purging the patient he puts him on milk diet, and prescribes daily doses of half a drachm of benzo-naphthol. This treatment, of which the first favourable results are witnessed at the end of twenty-four hours, rapidly removes the violent and tenacious itching.—*The Medical Press*, Jan'y. 18, 1989.

SURGERY.

IN CHARGE OF

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IS A GREEN INTESTINE GANGRENOUS?

Begoin (*Cbl. f. Chir.*, December 2) states that he found an eight-day incarcerated loop a "fine green Florentine bronze color" at the herniotomy. The loop was not reduced, and the patient died four hours later, when tests of the green portion proved that it was not gangrenous. The portion of the intestine was filled with water at a strong pressure, and only an apparently sound part split. He also states that the intestine can be colored green by bile alone, and that a light-green color does not necessarily imply any alteration in the intestinal wall. A yellow-green, dark, black or bottle-green are of worse significance, but at the same time they do not necessarily indicate a serious deterioration of the intestinal wall.—*Journal Am. Med. Ass'n*.