

servations were corroborated by Herr Hofrat Biederl, of Hagenan, and Eschevich, of Graz.

CYSTITIS IN THE FEMALE, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TREATMENT.—John C. Hersler, Ph.G., M.D., *Univ. Med. Mag.* The chief indications for treatment are :

1. To remove any discoverable source or sources of irritation which act through the medium of the urine. This may be affected by a milk diet, and a discontinuance of the use of acids, pepper, etc. Any mechanical source of vesical irritation should receive appropriate treatment.

2. The urine should be rendered bland by the use of a milk diet, the ingestion of considerable quantities of water, the administration of potassium citrate, if the urine be too acid, or of boric acid if it be alkaline.

3. Pelvic congestion should be relieved by hot vaginal douches, placing the patient in the knee-chest position; and the correction of constipation.

4. The inflamed cystic mucous membrane may be relieved by the administration of boric acid, salol, ol. santal, copaiba, or creosote by mouth; or the use of injections of boric acid, carbolic acid, of nitrate of silver in suitable strengths.

5. The patient's general health should be improved by tonics, etc.

6. Rest in bed, especially in all acute cases, is absolutely imperative.

While advocating direct local treatment for cases of cystitis which do not readily respond to ordinary therapeutic measures, the writer advises that it should be employed with judgment and caution.

THE DISCUSSION ON THE VALUE OF THE DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN at the Berlin Medical Society, was concluded at the third session of the society. *Med. Rec.* Dr. Schiemmann warned general practitioners against employing the antitoxine, which he said should be left to hospitals for the present. Professor O. Liebreich, director of the Pharmacological Institute of the University, criticised the published serum statistics. He said that the Berlin hospitals had always had a much higher percentage of deaths from diphtheria than the Berlin town practice. This was because, broadly speaking, only serious cases were brought to the hospitals. But since the introduction of the serum

treatment, a far greater number of cases—and cases of all sorts—had been brought to the hospitals, and so it was quite natural that the percentage of deaths had fallen considerably. He considered the serum treatment to be based on fallacies very similar to those which had formed the foundation of the tuberculin treatment. It would be interesting to find out, he added, what action on the organism injection of pure serum would have. Dr. Hansemann, in a few last words, stood to his view that antitoxin is not to be regarded as a specific for diphtheria.

AN American friend of mine, *Ed. Med. Times*, relates the following incident which occurred during his residence in one of the prohibition States. A practitioner in a small country town, where the sale of liquor was prohibited, except on a *bona fide* prescription of a medical man, desired to prescribe some whisky for one of his patients. The chemist to whom the prescription was intended to be sent being a somewhat scrupulous person, the doctor scratched his head and said that he feared unless he took particular pains his patient would not be able to get the prescription dispensed. Therefore, he wrote the same in the following manner :

R—Spts. Frumenti q.s.

and at the bottom he added the following lines :

Please give the bearer the above-named potation,
He's a pretty good chap and employed at the station,
The liquid he craves is known as frumentum,
And the name at the bottom will tell you who sent 'im.
The letters q.s., to be very explicit,
Is a medical dodge known as quantum sufficit,
But if a special translation you crave for,
'Tis simply this—give him all he can pay for.
Now do not refuse this my poor requisition
For I'm sound on the goose and an old school physician.

It may, perhaps, be as well to add that the prescription was duly dispensed. When the Local Option Bill passes I have no doubt that many of us will be called upon to prescribe for similar cases and earn many a fee thereby.

THE VALUE OF REPEATED LAVAGE AT SHORT INTERVALS IN OPIUM POISONING.—Hamburger, *Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin*, reports a case of opium poison in a Chinaman, illustrating the importance of repeated lavage. It was thought that all the