

Parker Hospital. In the diphtheria wards there are no cases of vaginitis, but in the scarlatina wards where the children are necessarily kept much longer, there are many cases. The same good care and cleanliness are observed in both divisions of the hospital, and the affection ensues from the necessary detention in the hospital. Children suffering from any form of tuberculosis occasionally get up a rather virulent form of vaginitis in hospital.

Outbreaks of contagious diseases are constant dangers in hospitals for infants and children, and can only be guarded against by the greatest care. Diphtheria, measles and pertussis are, from the nature of these diseases, most liable to creep in. Diphtheria sometimes appears to originate without hetero-infection, doubtless from Klebs-Leoeffler bacilli that have long been latent in the throat. I have seen cases thus develop that have been for weeks in the hospital, without being visited by friends or in any possible contact with a case of the disease. This is especially liable to happen in scrofulous infants with enlarged glands, nasal catarrh and adenoids. Visitors, however, are often responsible for the bringing of contagion, and all possible safeguards should be thrown around this source of danger. It is impossible to entirely exclude parents, but all others, especially children, should be refused admittance for fear of contagion. In view of the risks to which infants are subjected in collecting masses of them together, it seems proper that extreme care should be exercised when considering the subject of an hospital. Those who are responsible for the latter are not justified in simply supplying average care and condition. The hygienic surrounding must be of the best, the nursing of a very high grade, and a most scrupulous and painstaking oversight exercised. One good nurse should be supplied to not more than four or five sick infants, and in some cases one nurse may be required for only two patients. Finally, the infants should be particularly watched for the first signs of hospitalism, and promptly discharged before the malady has time to gain any hold on them. Many years ago Dr. A. Jacobi called attention to the susceptibility of infants to hospitalism, and his warning does not seem to have attracted the attention that it warranted.

DIGITALIS IN PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA.

In the *Revue de Medecine* for March 10, *New York Medical Journal*, M. Gingeot and M. Deguy publish a detailed account of twelve cases in which they employed digitalis with excellent results, especially in influenza. From a clinical point of view the authors take into account only the differ-