

THE USE OF CREOSOTE IN DETERMINING THE GRAVITY OF TUBERCULOSIS.—C. Burlureaux *Gaz. Hebdom. de Med. et de Chir.*; *Med. Times*, has studied the above subject with the object: First, of warning practitioners against the use of uniform doses of the drug in tuberculosis patients; and, second, of calling attention to the fact that the degree of tolerance of the medicament reveals, in a precise manner, the gravity of the disorder. The subject has been studied under four categories; under the first category are included those patients that tolerate the drug in a most perfect manner; for under the influence of the drug no untoward symptoms are exhibited, but, on the contrary, there is a marked improvement in the appetite and the general strength of the patient, the bodily weight is increased, and the tubercular lesions, both general and local, are manifestly stayed in their progress. Under the second category are placed those patients whose tolerance for the medicament is none the less marked, but in whom, although there is produced a general improvement, the local lesions are not influenced for the better. Patients of the third category have, at first, a tolerance for creosote, but in them, as in the case of those of the second category, the lesions continue in their development; suddenly, and without apparent cause, a marked intolerance comes on, and from this moment the prognosis becomes necessarily bad. A patient that exhibits this secondary intolerance for the drug, may be considered as a hopeless case. Under the fourth category are considered those patients who, from the very beginning of the treatment, cannot at all tolerate the remedy in question; in such patients the prognosis is similarly bad. The author illustrates, with the details of interesting cases, the points which characterize each one of the categories pointed out, and insists that, in general, creosote has, in tubercular disease, as much value from a prognostic, as Koch's remedy from a diagnostic point of view.

WHEN MAY SYPHILITICS MARRY?—The question which forms the subject matter of this pamphlet, *Hosp. Gaz.*, is one which the medical attendant is frequently called upon to answer, and any work which will assist him to arrive at sound conclusions will, we are sure, receive a hearty welcome. Dr. Schuster, the author, who is

regarded in Germany as an authority on syphilis, in this pamphlet has collected the opinions of the principal European and American writers on the subject, who are all practically unanimous in laying down the rule that at least two years should elapse from the date of infection before marriage is permissible, and then only in cases which have been, during the whole time, under careful and systematic treatment and are apparently free from all manifestations of the disease. Dr. Schuster says he is in the habit of sanctioning marriage, "if after careful examination no symptom of the disease can be discovered, and two efficient courses of twenty-five to forty-eight months' duration have been taken." He adds that he has never had reason to regret giving such advice; nevertheless we should hesitate to endorse it. Indeed the author himself admits "that even after two courses recovery may occasionally not be absolute, hence if a person intending to marry is willing to take additional precaution by waiting four whole years he should be encouraged to do so.

SURG.-LIEUT.-COLONEL LAWRIE publishes in the *Lancet*; *Hosp. Gaz.*, an experiment (illustrated by a tracing) on the effect of chloroform on the blood-pressure. It is a cross-circulation experiment done on two "pariah" dogs. The "fed" dog was given one grain of phosphorus daily for three days before the experiment to artificially induce weakness of the heart. Cross-circulation was established from the right common carotid artery of the feeder to the left common carotid of the fed, and from the right and left external jugular vein of the fed to the right external jugular veins of the feeder. The experiment shows that when chloroform is sent to the brain alone it produces lowering of the blood-pressure with (1) anæsthesia, (2) stoppage of the respiration, and (3) (?) death, and when it is sent to the heart alone it produces no effect whatever.

HEPATIC MASSAGE IN CATARRHAL JAUNDICE.—In the *Vratch*, Dr. I. Ch. Wechsler, of Berislavel, warmly recommends the treatment of ordinary catarrhal icterus by massage of the liver performed after the following simple method. The operator places his or her patient on the hepatic region and proceeds to rhythmically compress the liver during expirations, in the same