

success of epileptic colonies due, if not to the effect which a life directed to general conditions of health has on the intestinal functions? It is unfortunate that the colonies are only used for those advanced cases where the "habit of epilepsy" has become confirmed, a point to which we will return later on.

In most nervous diseases a septic element can be found, and indeed the number of such conditions being admitted to the category is constantly being increased. Neurasthenia has at last been admitted, grudgingly by some, in a whole-hearted manner by others. The result of partial or complete admission by the physician in charge is represented by the treatment which he adopts. Who believing entirely in the toxic cause treats the condition by electricity as their main weapon of attack? If one were formulating principles for treatment of nerve diseases, the first would be "Search for a septic element," and it would be to this element that treatment would be primarily directed. Not of course solely, for few cases are as simple as that. Most cases are instances of vicious circles, and other points in the circumference demand attention if the war is not to be too prolonged.

The symptom of *petit mal* and the ebb and flow of the battle, has its counterpart in many other nervous conditions. Many such notoriously exhibit stages of progression and periods of comparative calm. This again is only to be expected, and is to be explained by an increase or diminution in, or absorption of, toxic material. Especially would one expect this in the case of intestinal sources, where the conditions fluctuate more than in most other foci. In disseminated sclerosis, such periods of increase with remissions and improvement are quite the rule, and there is accumulating evidence of the septic origin of this complaint. The writer has under his care a case which commenced after an attack of colitis contracted in Egypt. Even after two years, a vaccine made from the faeces brought about such an improvement that the patient, who previously was quite unable to move a step, could in a few weeks with one hand on a bath chair manage to walk a mile. Other cases may be found in the medical journals of recent years. For instance, Dr. Bolton, of Nottingham, records a case of disseminated sclerosis where the well-established symptoms, which had existed for six years, were almost entirely removed by antiseptic measures applied to the septic focus, in this case a chronic atrophic rhinitis. He says that "under the antiseptic nasal treatment her walking powers improved, and she gained control over the sphincters. Three years later the nose still receives attention, but nothing is done for the spine. The sphincters give no trouble, walking is still improving, and she is able to perform all her ordinary duties without difficult. Apparently the cause has