

plications, which at times may become very dangerous, this drug should be used conservatively.

We appreciate its value when properly used; we realize its dangers when given injudiciously, and we cannot but advise the general practitioner to be conservative in its use.—*Am. Jour. of Surgery.*

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#### THE USE OF HORSE SERUM FOR THE PREVENTION OF HEMORRHAGE IN NOSE AND THROAT OPERATIONS.

Dr. Clement F. Theisen, Albany, claimed that in a previous series of cases of hemorrhages after tonsillectomy and other operations after the failure of other methods, the bleeding was controlled by injections of blood serum. In a new series of cases the serum was used before operating, when it was expected that there would be an unusual loss of blood. The injections were given when from a history of cases of severe spontaneous hemorrhages in the patient himself such a result was to be anticipated, and they were given irrespective of the coagulation time before operating. It had been recognized that the coagulation of the blood was dependent on the action of thrombin, the so-called fibrin ferment, but Voetglin and Macht had recently isolated from the blood and the adrenal cortex a new vasoconstrictor substance, and it was quite possible that the action of the serum was due to this. In his own observations the coagulation time had been estimated by the coagulometer of Russel and Brodie, as modified by Boggs. In the eight cases of his series reported in the paper the average coagulation time before injection of the serum was 5.18 minutes and after injection 4.12 minutes, making an average decrease in coagulation time of 1.06 minutes. When the serum had been used before tonsillectomy in a subject of the hemorrhagic or hemophilic diathesis the operator left his patient with a feeling of much greater security. Judging by a search of the literature the much-talked-of danger of anaphylaxis was practically nil, when as in his cases only one injection of serum had to be used. Dr. Theisen said that no claim was made in his paper that blood serum was infallible. It had, indeed, been successful in his hands, but in some cases it might fail.—*Medical Record.*

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#### TWO CASES OF PELVIC INFLAMMATION OPENED THROUGH THE BLADDER.

By M. Barragan y Bonet. The first was a case of pericystitis from vesical calculus and perforation of the bladder wall, in which, after the treatment, there was seen a conical eminence in the bladder. This