

accomplished, and effectual, and the materials are to be found in every house, and, indeed, about everybody's person (I have plugged in this manner, simply using a handkerchief, one part of which was used for the sac, and the other, torn into narrow strips, in place of the cotton wool); (*b*) no damage is done to the floor of the nose or back of the soft palate by strings, etc.; (*c*) no disagreeable hawking, coughing, or vomiting takes place while the plug is introduced; (*d*) there are no disagreeable strings left hanging down the throat, causing coughing or sickness while the plug is in; (*e*) the plug can be removed gently without any force, so that no damage is done to the mucous membrane and no return of hemorrhage caused.—*A. A. Philip, M.B., C.M.—Lancet.*

INFLUENZA IN CHILDREN.—There seems to be a prevailing impression that infants and young children are not attacked by influenza. That this idea is wrong, however, many practitioners can testify; it is naturally difficult to diagnose in such patients, but the fact that they sicken when their parents or nurses are affected with the disease is strong presumptive evidence that they also are attacked. Dr. David Fuchs, of Budapest, is of this opinion, and publishes a short article on the subject in the *Allgemeine Wiener Medicinische Zeitung* of Jan. 19th of this year. He states that he has met with many cases of influenza in young children, but that the symptoms and course of the disease differ in some particulars from those occurring in the adult. As a rule, the attack is lighter. It commences with fever, and the onset is sudden. One day the child may be perfectly healthy, whilst on the next it is severely ill without any prodromal symptoms having developed. The temperature does not generally rise above 103° F., though it may occasionally be as high as 104°. After lasting twenty-four hours, the fever commences to subside. With many children cerebral symptoms predominate. Dr. Fuchs records one case in which a child, aged eighteen months, was, without any warning, seized with severe laryngeal symptoms, followed by convulsions, whilst the temperature rose rapidly to 104°. Vomiting is a very common symptom. Next in frequency come affections of the mucous membranes. The conjunctivæ are injected,

and there is catarrh of the throat and nasal passages. In this stage the general appearance is very similar to the early stages of measles. The tongue is coated, and the child gradually subsides into an apathetic state. Older children complain of severe headache. The bowels are usually confined. There is not unfrequently a peculiar rash; it appears on the trunk and lower limbs, and takes the form of small papules not unlike the exanthem of varicella. Its extent varies greatly, and the number of spots may be very few or the reverse. In one child eighteen months old a few small pemphigus vesicles appeared on the backs of the legs, which were at first filled with a clear fluid, but afterwards dried up. Bronchial catarrh, usually slight, frequently follows. After these symptoms have lasted a few days, the temperature becomes normal, and the inflammation of the conjunctivæ and nasal mucous membranes disappears. The other catarrhal phenomena last longer, and the troublesome cough is difficult to get rid of. The exhaustion is considerable, and even after an illness of only three days a strong child will be very much pulled down. The prognosis is in nearly all cases favorable. Although weakly children suffer more than those who are stronger, serious complications rarely set in, and pneumonia is but rarely met with. The treatment is symptomatic, and Dr. Fuchs advises that no antipyretic drugs should be given, as they only tend to depress the patient. He recommends isolation.

THE CENTRE FOR HEARING.—A case of no little interest and importance in this connection is recorded by Dr. C. K. Mills in the current number of *Brain*. The patient, a woman of forty-six, was admitted to the hospital in August, 1891. Her history made it probable that she had suffered from specific disease. She was right-handed. Fifteen years before she had a "stroke," which left her word-deaf, but not paralyzed. She could hear musical and other sounds, but she could not understand words; yet she could apparently read and understand a paper, although in an attempt at reading aloud she made a jumble of the words, and a similar imperfection was present during ordinary attempts at speaking. She was able to write, but wrote wrong words. Six years later she