

THE EFFECTS OF INHALATIONS OF COAL-TAR CREASOTE.—Dr. Arnold Chaplin (*British Medical Journal*, June 22nd) states that he visited the creasote and timber works of Messrs. Bent, Boulton and Haywood. He noticed that when the coal-tar creasote was heated, dense fumes were given off, and that those employed in these fumes were remarkably free from pulmonary diseases; and that some who had cough had become cured. The fumes were tried upon several patients at the London Hospital for chest diseases. The method of administration was to select a close room about seven feet square, and in the centre place a spirit lamp, over which the coal-tar creasote was heated in a shallow dish. The patient is placed in the fumes for half an hour at first, but can remain longer after a few days. The nostrils may be filled with a little cotton wool, and the eyes and hair protected. The fumes greatly stimulate the cough and increase the expectoration. In this way the tubes are emptied. Afterwards the secretion of phlegm is lessened and the cough lessened as well. The fetid condition of the expectoration is relieved. Marked benefit has resulted from the treatment in cases of chronic bronchitis and bronchiectasis.

DETECTION OF SUGAR IN THE URINE.—Dr. A. R. Elliott (*N. Y. Med. Jour.*, July 27th) gives the following formulæ devised by himself for the testing of sugar in the urine:

Solution 1.—

Cupric sulphate.....	gr. xxvii.
Glycerine (pure).....	ʒiii.
Distilled water.....	ʒiiss.
Liq. potassæ.....	ad ʒiv.

Dissolve the cupric sulphate in the glycerine and water and gently heat. When cold add the liquor potassæ.

Solution 2.—A saturated solution of chemically pure tartaric acid.

These solutions are quite stable and keep indefinitely.

Into a test tube pour a drachm of the cupric oxide solution. Boil gently over a spirit lamp. Then add two or three drops of the tartaric acid solution and boil again. The urine is now added slowly drop by drop until eight drops are added. If no reaction takes place by this time, there is no sugar. The reaction is a yellowish, or reddish, or greenish-grey deposit of suboxide, which is marked and unmistakable. In a few minutes the reaction deepens.