

**ACUTE DYSENTERY.**—Strong testimony as to the value of Dr. Roberts Bartholow's method of treating acute dysentery by a saturated solution of Epsom salts, is given by Dr. A. W. D. Leahy, of India. *Columbus Med. Jour.* He cites ninety-five cases with only two deaths. The solution is made as follows :

R—Magnes. sulphat. . . . q. s. to saturate.

Aquæ. . . . . fl 3 vii.

Acid. sulphuric. dilut. fl 3 i.—M.

Sig.—Tablespoonful in water every hour or two, until it operates.

Morphine, or starch enemata with laudanum, may also be used if indicated. Under its use fever, if present, disappears; mucus and blood are wanting in the stools, which become copious, feculent and bilious; the tenesmus ceases; the patient's anxiety diminishes; the skin acts well and sleep follows the administration of the first few doses. It is especially in the acute cases that sulphate of magnesia is so valuable; the more chronic the case becomes, the less apparent are the advantages of this treatment. After the stools have become normal in color and appearance, an ordinary mixture of acid with laudanum or tincture of cannabis indica is all that is needed to complete the cure.

**FORMULÆ FOR PRURITUS.**—The following are given by *La Semaine Méd.* for pruritus :

R—Pure resorcin, . . . . . 3 j.

Glycerin, . . . . . 3 ij.

Water, . . . . . 3 iv.—M.

Sig.—For external use.

R—Menthol, . . . . . 3 iij.

Glycerin, . . . . . 3 ij.

Water, . . . . . 3 iv.—M.

Sig.—For external use.

**VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.**—The following is highly recommended :

R—Menthol, . . . . . grs. xv.

Alcoholis, . . . . . 3 v.

Aq. dest., . . . . . 3 iv.—M.

Sig.—3ss every hour.

**LAPAROTOMY IN PERITONEAL TUBERCULOSIS.**—Dr. Parker Syms says statistics show a very small death rate—three per cent.

Sepsis is not so likely to occur in these peri-

toneal cases as in laparotomy on healthy ones, on account of the pathological changes which have taken place in the membrane.

Tubercular infection of the wound does not occur.

Disinfectants are useless, and drainage should not be used, as it is likely to result in a permanent sinus.

In unsuccessful cases the operation at least does no harm. Most of the patients who have died at a time remote from the operation, have succumbed to general tuberculosis, or to a tuberculosis of some other organ.

Established—not advanced—pulmonary tuberculosis is an indication for, and not against the operation, for the improvement gained enables the patient to better resist the phthisis, and if this latter is but incipient, recovery may take place.

Laparotomy is the proper form of treatment for these cases. In some unknown way it exerts a most beneficial influence upon the disease, resulting in a cure in a large proportion of cases, and marked improvement in nearly all.

FRANCE (*Weekly Med. Rev.*) has one physician to every 3,000 people; Germany, one to 1,500, or twice as many; the United States, one to 600, five times as many as France; and California, that boasts of her climate and the good health of her people, one to 500, or six times as many as France. One year since Los Angeles had one physician to 301 of her people.

**HYDROCELE.**—Prof. John A. Wyeth says, *Practice*, always cures hydrocele by injections of pure carbolic acid. All the liquid must first be drawn off with an aspirator. About thirty minims of carbolic acid is a sufficient quantity to sear the sack. This is not as painful as might be supposed. The first effect is to cause swelling, which soon subsides. In fifty operations two cases only have failed to be cured by the first injection.

**THE CURE OF CANCER.**—Says the *Med. Rec.*, Prof. Mosetig, of Vienna, announces that in pyoktanin or methyl-violet, he has found a remedy for cancer. He does not assert that any cases are quite cured yet; but the results have been so satisfactory as to lead him to think a cure will be found in the aniline dyes.