Hillier considers it the most desirable antiseptic that has come to his hands. An extended experience in obstetrics and gynecologic work has not developed a fact to throw doubt on the efficient and energetic power of solveol.

Solutol is a cresol preparation for general disinfection in which cresol is rendered soluble by the addition of cresol-alkaline. Solutol penetrates very rapidly into the interior of masses of matter and has a great facility for dissolving blood coagula.

In solutol the germicidal effect of the cresol is increased by the strong alkaline reaction of the preparation and is well suited for gross disinfection.

Formaldehyde.—The uses of this antiseptic are too numerous and the results of experiments too unsettled to discuss its uses at any length in the limited space at our disposal.

It may be permitted to refer to the work of Dr. Edward Martin, of Philadelphia, in regard to the value of formaldehyde in disinfecting instruments.

Exposure of instruments to formaldehyde vapor given off by paraform in a closed box at ordinary room temperature proved absolutely efficacious.

Catheters new and old, and these dipped in material infected with pure culture of Staphylococcus pyogenes aureus or colon bacillus and had not been washed, were rendered absolutely sterile. This was proved in upwards of a hundred experiments.

Iodoform.—The question of the antiseptic power of iodoform has called out much discussion. The favorable results derived from surgical practice has not been confirmed by the results obtained by many of the bacteriologists. Some light has been thrown upon the rationale of the antiseptic and therapeutic action of iodoform by the work of some of the investigators. Behring, in writing, says that iodoform exerts its antiseptic action, only when it is decomposed and that from a surgical point of view this is a fortunate peculiarity of this agent. Bacteria which have strong reducing characteristics decompose iodoform and render it active. Iodoform therefore is an antiseptic agent in the true sense of the word.

Iodoform applied to wounds reduces the amount of secretions, increase the diapedesis of the white corpuscles, and does not diminish their vitality as shown by their ameboid movement. It may be stated, therefore, that the natural course of infection in a wound may be hindered by iodoform in three ways: by limiting the development of the microbes; by lessening their virulence; and by neutralizing their toxins.

Light.—In the study of the available means of destroying infection, light and particularly direct sunlight should not be forgotten. The researches of recent years have shown that sunshine has a degree of germicidal value; and the bacteriolo-