

From *Rivista Clinica di Bologna*.

TIMOLO.

Belongs to the carbolic series and possesses an energetic antiseptic action, according to Husemann, superior to that of carbolic acid. Upon skin and mucous membrane it has a slightly caustic effect, and internally it acts especially upon the nervous system, producing a fall of temperature, moderating respiration, and reducing the pulse. If the dose be toxic it produces death by adynamia, but without coma or anæsthesia. It then produces special anatomical lesions, which are: Pulmonary congestion, renal hyperæmia, hepatic steatosis, albuminuria and epithelial casts in the urine, &c. For its antiseptic action Lewin prefers it to any other antiputrescent. In cases in which the dilated stomach becomes the seat of abnormal fermentation, Timolo administered at such time controls the vomiting and causes the viscus to contract. Lewin believes that Timolo will also prove useful in diphtheria, and in parasitic diseases in general. As an astringent it is exceedingly useful in hypersecretions from mucous membranes. For internal use it is convenient to employ at first a solution of $\frac{1}{2}$ per 100, afterwards increased to 1 per 100, of which two or three teaspoonfuls may be administered per day. With 120 grammes (3iij. 3vi) of this solution, 20 grammes (3v.) of sweet almonds and 25 grammes (3vi. gr. xv) of syrup, we can form an emulsion, of which 5 to 6 teaspoonfuls may be daily given. Lastly, as an application to wounds, the solution of 1 in 100 will suffice, but we may also employ 2-4 grammes (3ss. 3i) of Timolo in 100 grammes 3iij. 3i) of alcohol mixed with a litre of distilled water.

From *L'Union Medicale*.

Among the general conclusions which complete the volume of "Memoires de Physiologie," by M. Paul Bert, the author promulgates the view that at the beginning of life upon our globe, oxygen was more abundant than it now is. It is then probable that the first beings were bacteria, which can exist in an excess of oxygen. The time will come when the only beings which will exist will be those which, in the absence of free oxygen, can borrow this gas

from bodies which have been organized, and these are the vibriones. Thus, life commenced upon our globe with bacteria, and will end with vibriones. "These last, said M. Dumas, we shall not see;" but we see them now. They are they which shall see us no more. At a late session of the *Academie de Sciences*, M. Cailletet announced that he had succeeded in liquefying one of the four gases which hitherto had resisted all tentative efforts to obtain this result. There remain still unreduced only hydrogen, oxygen, and marsh gas; the fourth, nitrous deutoxide, has been liquefied under a pressure of 104 atmospheres, at a temperature of less than 11 degrees. This gas, at a temperature of 3 degrees below zero, had resisted a pressure of 270 atmospheres. The difference of temperature is then, in this case, much more important than the pressure, since a difference of 8 degrees is more efficacious than a difference of 166 atmospheres. We may venture to hope that the other gases which we have named will not be long before being likewise reduced to the liquid state.

ON THE EXTIRPATION OF THE GRAVID UTERUS
AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR CÆSAREAN SECTION.

It occurred to Dr. Rein on account of the great success of laparotomy in fibroid tumours of the uterus to try the same operation as a substitute for Cæsarean section. He extirpated the uterus in thirteen cases of cats and rabbits which were with young. At first the operations were unsuccessful on account of their not being properly performed. The walls of the abdomen were opened in the middle line, and the neck of the womb ligatured in various ways. The uterus was then drawn out of the wound, opened and emptied of its contents, then separated from the neck above the ligature. The neck of the womb was attached to the wall of the abdomen in the same way as a pedicle. The fetal animals were extracted also, and some of the rabbits survived.

From these experiments, Dr. Rein concluded that the operation might be performed in a similar way on the human subject. Extirpation of the womb has the advantage over Cæsarean section that the bleeding can be easily controlled, and that no wounded organ is