

made, in which the proportions were 1 centigramme hydrarg. perchlor. and 4 centigrammes excipient.

After swallowing one of these the patient complained of smarting and dysphagia. Garel saw him about an hour and a quarter later, and found, on examination, an opalescent swelling about the size of a large grape on the left arytenoid. In twenty-four hours the œdema disappeared, although some pain in swallowing was still present; this also went off in four or five days.

Inquiry into the matter revealed that the patient had held the pill in his hand for some time before swallowing, and had unconsciously softened the excipient by rolling the pill between his fingers.

The author warns against using too small a quantity of excipient, and draws attention to the danger of softening the pills as in the foregoing case. He also advises drinking a quantity of water to prevent any corrosive action on the mucous membrane of the stomach.

Anthony McCall.

E A R.

Snydacker, E. F. (Chicago).—*The Microscope as an Aid to Diagnosis and Prognosis in Chronic Suppurations of the Middle Ear.* "Arch. of Otol.," vol. xxx., No. 6.

The writer recommends microscopical examination of the centrifugalized washings from the middle ear, with a view to the recognition of epidermis coming from the middle ear, of bone-dust, or of cholesterol crystals; he considers bacteriological examination of little or no value. He has carried it out in thirteen cases in which the discharge had resisted careful alcohol treatment. In three of them the patients refused operation, in spite of the presence of these elements, and he therefore dismissed them from treatment, a course which he recommends to others in such cases. (This valuable paper would have been still more instructive if the writer's conscience had allowed him to keep these cases under observation, so that it might have been known whether the unfavourable prognosis he had given was confirmed by the after-results, as, indeed, would be most likely.—D. G.)

He examines the centrifugalized sediment first without staining, then after staining with picro-carmin, and, finally (for the detection of bone-dust), by fixing with albumin fixative, staining with hæmatoxylin slightly dehydrated with alcohol, clearing with carboxylol, and mounting in Canada balsam.

Dundas Grant.

NEW PREPARATION.

WE have received from Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. a specimen of "Tabloid" Apomorphine Compound, the formula of which is: Apomorphine hydrochloride, $\frac{1}{5}$ grain (0.0013 gramme); ammonium chloride, 3 grains (0.194 gramme); extract of liquorice, $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains (0.097 gramme). As is well known, apomorphine in small doses, frequently repeated, is used internally in the treatment of certain affections of the respiratory organs, and it is said to be of especial value in cases of chronic bronchitis, bronchorrhœa, and whooping-cough. A useful combination is presented in "Tabloid" Apomorphine Compound, in which product the action of the apomorphine is aided by the stimulant-expectorant properties of ammonium chloride and by the demulcent qualities of extract of liquorice.