

The second patient was a man, aged fifty-three, with a tumour the size of a hen's egg. He was operated on through the mouth, in the inclined position, under chloroform narcosis. *Chichele Nourse.*

Fallas, A. (Brussels).—*Phlegmons of the Neck of Bucco-pharyngeal Origin.* "La Presse Oto-laryngologique Belge," August, 1907.

Notes of four cases of infective cellulitis of the neck, with comments upon the mode of origin and treatment of this dangerous affection. A short bibliography is annexed. *Chichele Nourse.*

Dawson, Bertram.—*Röntgen Rays as an Aid to the Diagnosis of Stricture of the Esophagus.* "Lancet," October 26, 1907.

The author describes the method of watching the descent of the thick emulsion of bismuth by means of the Röntgen screen. The results are better seen if the observer stands in a dark sentinel box for ten minutes before the radiograph is thrown on to one side of it.

St Clair Thomson.

NOSE.

Vernieuwe (Ghent).—*A Contribution to the Study of Closed Ethmoidal Sinusitis.* "La Presse Oto-laryngologique Belge," June, 1907.

The records of two cases of ethmoidal empyema, of which the first is an example of infection of a pre-existing mucocele, and the second of primary closed sinusitis. A copious bibliography is appended.

Chichele Nourse.

Galebsky.—*Intra-tracheal Injections in the Treatment of Chronic Diseases of the Lungs.* "Russkii Vrach," No. 26, 1907.

Dr. Galebsky considers the method again, and brings much experimental evidence to show its superiority over inhalations. The author has studied the effect of such injections upon animals, the parts of the lungs reached by the liquids used, and the character of the reaction set up in the lungs. The dogs experimented upon stood the injections very well, the amount used reaching 30 c.c., introduced by means of a modified Pravaz syringe, 5 c.c. at a time. In using eucalyptol and menthol it was possible to show that the drugs reached the alveoli of the lungs, while the direction of penetration could be easily controlled by placing the animal on one or the other side for some minutes after the injection. Oil of sweet almonds and salt solution produced hardly any reaction, while eucalyptol and menthol, which later were used on patients, in dogs produced some slight changes, such as mild catarrhal reaction and the appearance of some granulation tissue in the interalveolar spaces. The method was then applied in the treatment of seventeen patients, fourteen of whom were suffering from tuberculosis, two had putrid bronchitis, one simple bronchitis, and one suffered from bronchiectasis with beginning gangrene of the lungs. The patients were always placed in the position for laryngoscopy, and the point of the syringe was introduced beyond the vocal cords under the control of the mirror. Cocaine used in the first injection was dispensed with later on, and the drugs used—chiefly eucalyptol and menthol—were introduced dissolved in sweet almond oil. The patients were then placed on one or the other side, depending upon the localisation of the disease in the lungs.

The most important effect was found in the diminution of cough, which before treatment was robbing the patients of sleep and interfering with their general well-being.

Galebsky's animal experiments with subsequent pathological study apparently prove that the injected liquids reach the alveoli of the lungs, the interstitial tissue, and the bronchial glands much more surely than the drugs introduced by inhalation. *Lauzun-Brown.*

Beck, H. G., and Stokes, W. R.—*An Epidemic Pneumococcal Catarrhal Disease.* "Journ. of Amer. Med. Assoc.," September 14, 1907.

The authors give an account of a peculiar epidemic that has appeared in two separate years in Baltimore. The disease exists as a distinct entity, occurs in the spring months, though similar epidemics have occurred in the autumn, and is characterised by purulent or fibrous inflammation of the mucous membranes of the eye, nose and throat. There is a characteristic, usually spasmodic cough, sometimes resembling pertussis. The disease commences with chilliness and slight fever, with sneezing, lacrymation, and mucous nasal discharge. There may be an associated bronchitis, but the symptoms indicate the chief trouble to be in the upper end of the air-passages. There are no serious nervous symptoms and little or no physical or mental depression; the average duration is from one week to ten days, though the cough often continues longer. The disease is infectious, running through families, and even animals do not appear to be altogether immune. Epidemic catarrh lacks the gastro-intestinal symptoms, constipation, or diarrhoea, due to the *Micrococcus catarrhalis*. So far as the eye symptoms are concerned, the disease is the same as the pneumococcal conjunctivitis described by Kölle and Wasserman as occurring in Europe in 1896. In most of the cases examined bacteriologically the pneumococcus was found, giving the usual culture and staining characteristics and producing characteristic effects in inoculation experiments. *Lauzun-Brown.*

LARYNX.

Felix, Eugene (Bucharest).—*Laryngeal Paralysis in Goitre.* "Arch. Internat. de Laryngol., d'Otol., et de Rhinol.," tome xxiv, No. 6, November—December, 1907.

The author brings together a considerable collection of opinions bearing upon two points; (1) the anatomical relations between the recurrent laryngeal nerve and the inferior thyroid artery; and (2) the occurrence of recurrent paralysis in goitre, particularly after operation.

With regard to the anatomical relations between the nerve and the artery the trend of opinion seems to be that while considerable variation exists, the rule is that on the left side the nerve lies behind the artery, and on the right side the nerve lies in front of the artery, thus fulfilling the expectation we should be likely to form when we remember that in the whole of its course the right nerve lies more anteriorly than the left.

On the question of the occurrence of recurrent paralysis the author has collected a large number of statistics, many of which are unfortunately vitiated by the fact that the cases reported were not submitted to