

## THERAPEUTICS.

**Pratt, Charles M.**—*Cocaine*. "Maritime Medical News," August, 1906.

This article treats of the drug, its origin, how it came into use, the uses to which it has been applied, and the existence and danger of the cocaine habit.

Among other items, special spinal cocainisation is referred to, and the frequency with which it has been used by this method for anæsthesia during major operations.

The writer thinks that it is highly probable that spinal anæsthesia by the use of cocaine will be widely practised in the surgery of the future.

*Price-Brown.*

**Raoult, A., and Pillement, P.** (Nancy).—*Some Notes on the Use of Alypin*. "Archives Inter. de Laryngologie, d'Otologie," etc., September—October, 1906.

Among the many substitutes for cocaine which have appeared in the last few years alypin presents several points of interest. It is a white, crystalline powder, very soluble in water. Its anæsthetic power is almost, if not quite, equal to that of cocaine, and gives excellent results in nasal cauterisations. The anæsthetic effect is complete in three minutes, and lasts for a considerable time. Congestion may be avoided by adding a drop or two of adrenalin. It does not retract the mucous membrane, and the secondary hæmorrhage is less than with cocaine. In throat work alypin is useful for slight cauterisations, but cocaine is better for cutting operations. There are no toxic effects, no acceleration of the pulse, paleness, perspiration, or coldness of extremities.

*Anthony McCall.*

**Harland, W. G. B.** (Philadelphia).—*Report of a Case in which Disagreeable Symptoms followed the Local Use of Cocaine, Adrenalin Chloride and Argyrol*. The "Therapeutic Gazette," October 15, 1906.

The patient was a lady under middle age. She had long been under treatment for a lithæmic condition of the throat and nose, and on the day in question came to the author to have some nasal pressure symptoms relieved. The nose was sprayed with an alkaline solution, a little 4 per cent. cocaine with 1 in 1000 adenalin applied to the lower turbinals, and the latter touched with glycerite of tannic acid and 25 per cent. argyrol. Finally, a menthol-albolene nebula was used. The method had often been used before. It was immediately followed by blocking of the nose, heat and dryness of the throat, fulness and roaring in the ears, suffusion of the eyes, redness and swelling of the hands. Twenty minutes later itching, commencing in the head and extending downwards, ceasing above as it spread below, came on. The pupils were dilated, accommodation preserved, pulse rapid and weak. In forty minutes the symptoms abated, and twenty minutes later she could walk home.

The author cites a similar case reported by Burnett ("International Clinics," 1902) following the use of a 1 in 1000 adrenalin chloride nasal spray.

*Macleod Yearsley.*