

Meanwhile, the points here touched on derive additional emphasis from these discussions, and in view of the vital issues depending on them, we offer no apologies for drawing attention to them, even though they be familiar, in whole or in part, to all those practising otology.

ABSTRACTS.

DIPHTHERIA, &C.

Aaser (Christiania).—*The Existence of Loeffler's Diphtheria Bacilli in Healthy Persons.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 22.

A DIPHTHERIA epidemic occurred among the soldiers in a barrack. The author examined the healthy men, and found virulent diphtheria bacilli in seventeen cases—*i.e.*, nineteen per cent.—in the mouths of eighty-nine healthy subjects. In a scarlatina ward of his hospital, infected by one case of diphtheria, he found bacilli in twenty per cent. of the children with scarlet fever without diphtheritic affection. After removal of the infected soldiers from the barrack and the children from the ward the epidemic ceased. *Michael.*

Bernheim (Graz).—*On Mixed Infections in Diphtheria. Clinical and Experimental Researches.* "Zeitsch. für Hygiene," Band 18.

THE experiments of the author gave the result that, if cultures of streptococci are injected in rabbits at the same time as those of diphtheria bacilli, the infection is much stronger, and death follows in a much shorter time than if diphtheria bacilli alone are injected. *Michael.*

Eptein.—*Pseudo-Diphtheria of Septicæmic Origin in New-Born Children and Babies.* "Jahrb. für Kinderheilk.," Band 39, Heft 7.

THE author has sometimes observed membranous affections in the mouths of new-born infants and babies similar to soor or diphtheria. He describes one case in which the bacteriological examination showed streptococci. In this case the blood was examined before the pharyngeal affection, and streptococci were found also in the blood. In this case it is certain that the septicæmia was the primary affection. *Michael.*

Carstens (Leipzig).—*Incubation in Diphtheria.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 35.

A CHILD in a family in which were some cases of diphtheria was examined every day by the author. He found no bacilli. Later on diphtheria occurred, and the same day as it arose bacilli were found. The author concludes that the disease has only a short incubation. *Michael.*

Deucher (Berne).—*The Clinical Diagnosis of Diphtheria.* "Correspondenzbl. für Schweizer Aerzte," 1895, No. 16.

THE author concludes:—(1) The clinical diphtheria of the pharynx with typical pseudo-membranes is, if scarlatinous diphtheria is excluded, in most cases similar

to Loeffler's diphtheria. (2) The punctiform diphtheria also is in most cases combined with Loeffler's bacilli, and also differs clinically from angina lacunaris. (3) The typical angina lacunaris differs from punctiform diphtheria. The secretion contains no Loeffler's bacilli. (4) The pseudo-diphtheria caused by streptococci is not only bacteriologically, but also clinically, different from Loeffler's diphtheria, and can easily be differentiated from it after exclusion of scarlatinous diphtheria. (5) In common catarrhal angina, and also in the normal mouth, diphtheria bacilli are sometimes found. (6) True pseudo-membranes in the air-passages and larynx nearly always show the presence of Loeffler's bacilli. (7) In cases of true laryngeal croup Loeffler's bacilli are often found in the tonsils. (8) If neither in the larynx nor in the pharynx can pseudo-membranes be found, the pseudo-croup can be differentiated by anamnesis and the symptoms of membranous croup. (9) In pseudo-croup, clinically diagnosed, in most cases no Loeffler's bacilli are found. (10) Diphtheria and membranous croup are not so frequently diagnosed as they should be. (11) The complication of diphtheria with streptococci does not give such bad results as is often believed. (12) True diphtheria can never be excluded from negative results of bacteriological examination. (13) In two-thirds of all cases in which Loeffler's bacilli are present they can be found in the dry preparation.

Michael.

Bernhard (Remickendorf).—*Prognosis and Diagnosis of Diphtheria.* "Archiv für Kinderheilk.," Band 19, Heft 1 and 2.

THE author concludes: The prognosis depends upon the relation between predisposition and the virulence of the bacilli. The nature of the urine is in this relation of great prognostic value. Albuminuria is an uncertain symptom, but the presence of morphological elements in the urine gives a bad prognosis—the more so the earlier it is observed. The diphtheria nephritis is a toxic symptom, and when it is present large doses of Heilserum must be given.

Michael.

Fitzpatrick, C. B.—*Notes on the Preparation of Diphtheria Antitoxin.* "New York Med. Journ.," April 27, 1895.

AN extremely valuable paper, but one which must be read in full. *R. Lake.*

Seitz (Munich).—*Results of Serum Treatment in Private Practice in Munich.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 29.

OF 90 cases 82 have been cured.

Michael.

Nes (Hanover).—*On Fifty-two Diphtheritic Children Treated by Heilserum.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 23.

OF 52 cases, 40 (equal to 77 per cent.) have been cured. Of these, 30 were not tracheotomized, with 26 (equal to 87 per cent.) cures. Of 22 tracheotomized cases, 14 (equal to 64 per cent.) have been cured.

Michael.

Gaudard (Audeur).—*Contribution to Serum Treatment.* "Schweizer Correspbl.," 1895, No. 11.

OF fourteen cases, thirteen have been cured.

Michael.

Berliner (Remickendorf).—*Diphtheria Heilserum in Medical Practice.* "Archiv für Kinderheilk.," Band 19, Heft 1 and 2.

OF forty-two cases, two have died. The author recommends the treatment.

Michael.

Germonig (Trieste).—*Report on 362 Cases of Diphtheria treated by Behring's Heilserum in the Civil Hospital of Trieste.* "Wiener Klin. Woch.," 1895, Nos. 21 and 22.

DURING the years 1886 to 1891, out of 179 diphtheria patients, 108 (equal to 60 per cent.) died. Of 69 tracheotomized subjects, 55 (equal to 85 per cent.) died. In 1892, of 78 patients, 51 per cent. died; of 19 tracheotomized, 84 per cent. died. In 1893, of 110 patients, 52 per cent.; and of 84 tracheotomized, 75 died. In 1894 (January to August), of 149 patients, 46 per cent. died; of 54 tracheotomized and intubated, 80 per cent. died. Of 362 cases treated with serum: 240 of pharyngeal diphtheria, 23 (equal to 9.5 per cent.) died; of 120 with laryngeal diphtheria, 49 (equal to 41 per cent.) The results were the better the earlier the treatment was begun. Of 25 cases in which the treatment was begun the first day of the disease not one died. Albuminuria is sometimes observed, but not more than in other cases. Exanthema were observed in 50 cases. *Michael.*

Torday.—*Heilserum Treatment in Diphtheria.* "Pester Med. Chir. Presse," 1895, No. 26.

OF sixty-two cases treated with Heilserum nine have died. *Michael.*

Egger (Basel).—*Heilserum Treatment in Diphtheria.* "Jahresbericht der Allg. Poliklinik in Basel," 1895.

OF 157 cases treated without serum, 19, equal to 12 per cent., have died. Of 83 treated with serum, 11, equal to 13½ per cent., have died. *Michael.*

Ritter (Berlin). — *Further Communications on Diphtheria and Blood-Serum Treatment.* "Wiener Med. Woch.," 1895, Nos. 16, 17, 18, and 20.

THE diphtheria bacilli can be found in every case of spontaneous or artificial infection of diphtheria. In the case of diphtheria in man the symptoms are caused by the general effect of Loeffler's bacilli and streptococci. The fibrinous form is produced by Loeffler's bacilli; the phlegmonous and gangrenous forms by streptococci. Of fifty cases treated with combined local and serum treatment, forty-two have been cured. The author concludes that serum treatment is successful in cases caused only by the diphtheria bacilli; that in cases of infection with streptococci local antiseptic treatment gives better results than the serum treatment. Immunity inoculations have had no effect. *Michael.*

Kohts (Strasburg).—*Experiences with Heilserum.* "Therap. Monatsch.," 1895, No. 4.

DURING the years 1889 to 1895 in the clinic of Strasburg 841 cases have been treated; of these, 274 (equal to 32.6 per cent.) have died; of 491 tracheotomized, 218 (equal to 44½ per cent.) have died; of 350 non-tracheotomized, 56 (equal to 16 per cent.) have died. The mortality of tracheotomized subjects varied in these years between 25 per cent. and 50 per cent., and of non-tracheotomized, between 7 per cent. and 18 per cent. In 85 per cent. of all fatal cases the end was caused by bronchial croup; in 15 per cent. by other complications. Of 29 cases treated, with 13.7 per cent. deaths, without Heilserum, 18 have not required operation, and there has been no case of death; of 11 tracheotomized patients, 7 have been cured, and 4 have died. 39 cases were treated with serum; of these, 12 were not tracheotomized; one of them died. Of 27 tracheotomized patients, 8 died. The author concludes: The result of the Heilserum treatment was not so favourable as that during the year 1891. It cannot prevent complications. *Michael.*

Leichtenstern and **Wendelstadt** (Kota).—*Experiences with Heilserum.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 24.

THE mortality of non-operated cases is not diminished by the Heilserum treatment, but the mortality of tracheotomized children is diminished from sixty-four per cent. to forty-three per cent. It was not so small during any period of other treatment.

Michael.

Lunin.—*Treatment of Diphtheria by Heilserum.* Verein St. Petersburg. Aerzte, Meeting, March 28, 1895.

OF twenty-six bacteriologically examined cases of diphtheria treated by Heilserum eleven have died. Of five cases tracheotomized two have died. The author recommended the treatment.

MASING agreed with the author.

SCHMITZ remarked that in his experience local treatment with toluol is without any effect.

Michael.

Kurth (Bremen).—*Results of the Application of Diphtheria Heilserum in Bremen from October 8th, 1894, to April 30th, 1895.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, Nos. 27, 28 and 29.

OF ninety-seven cases, ten have died (equal to 10.3 per cent.). The author also has performed prophylactic vaccinations on a great many cases, and is satisfied with his results. The extensive details must be seen in the original. *Michael.*

Ersenstaldt (Pappenheim).—*Serum Treatment.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 29.

OF 102 cases 10 have died.

Michael.

Springorum (Magdeburg).—*Report on 206 cases of Diphtheria treated with Behring's Heilserum.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1895, Nos. 31 and 32.

OF 206 children treated with Heilserum 78, equal to 37.9 per cent., have died. Of 482 children treated during the same time without Heilserum 122, equal to 25.3 per cent., have died. Of tracheotomized children treated with serum, 113 cases, 52, equal to 46 per cent., have died. Of 140 treated without serum 78, equal to 55.7 per cent., have died. The author gives a great many statistics, and recommends the serum treatment, because it diminishes the mortality 10 per cent. But his facts, if impartially regarded, show that between other years, without serum treatment, there are differences of 16 per cent. (48.6—64.2), and judging from these results the serum treatment has no influence at all.

Michael.

Furth (Freiburg-i-Br.).—*On 100 cases of Diphtheria treated with Heilserum.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 30.

OF 100 cases 12 have died. Of 31 tracheotomized 11, equal to 35.4 per cent., have died. In other years the mortality differed between 63 and 88 per cent. (25 per cent. variation).

Michael.

Nolen (Leiden).—*Experiences with Heilserum in a House Epidemic of Diphtheria.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 23.

THE four cases communicated refer to three children and a sister-in-law of the author.

1. A child, ten years old; affected, Jan. 21, 1895; injected, Jan. 22. Cured.

2. A child, four and a half years old; prophylactically injected, Jan. 22; affected, Jan. 23. Cured.

3. A lady, thirty years old; not injected; affected, Jan. 25; treated with Loeffler's solution. Slow convalescence, with paresis of the soft palate.

4. A child, fourteen months old; prophylactically injected, Jan. 22; attacked, Jan. 26; injected, Jan. 27. Cured.

These cases show that prophylactic injections are without any effect. *Michael.*

Marcuse (Berlin).—*The disagreeable After-Effects of Diphtheria Heilserum.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 35.

ELEVEN days after the application of Heilserum there arose pains in the joints, exanthemata and albuminuria combined with remittent fever. *Michael.*

Zielenziger (Berlin).—*Some Cases of Exanthemata following the Serum Treatment of Diphtheria.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 35.

THE author has observed exanthemata in five cases. *Michael.*

The Diphtheria Collective Investigation of the "Deutsche Med. Wochenschrift." "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 32.

AN extensive report will appear later. The authors only give a short review of the statistical results. Of 5833 cases treated with serum, 559 (equal to nine per cent.) have died; of 317 tracheotomized patients, 105 (equal to 33·1 per cent.) have died; of 4479 cases treated without serum, 656 (equal to 14·7 per cent.) have died. *Michael.*

Ambrosius (Hanan).—*Report on the Diphtheria Tracheotomies performed in the Hospital of Hanan, from April 1, 1891, till December 3, 1893.* "Deutsche Zeitsch. für Chir.," Bd. 40, Heft 5 and 6.

Of 99 cases, 46, equal to 46·5 per cent., have been cured. *Michael.*

Buchholz.—Gesellschaft Prakt. Aerzte zu Riga, Meeting, Jan. 18, 1895.

THE author showed a case of polyneuritis diphtheritica. *Michael.*

Buchholz (Riga).—*The Treatment of Diphtheria with Heilserum in the City Hospital of Riga.* "St. Petersburger Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 5.

OF seven cases six have been cured. In four cases a commencing laryngeal stenosis disappeared under the treatment. The author recommends this treatment. *Michael.*

Bleich.—*Cure of Diphtheria.* "Allg. Med. Centralzeitung," 1894, No. 7.

RECOMMENDATION of inunctions with unguentum cinereum to the neck.

Michael.

Laser.—*Influence of Citric Acids on the Diphtheria Bacilli.* "Hygien. Rundschau," 1894.

RECOMMENDATION of the application of citric acid in cases of diphtheria.

Michael.

Kirstein (Berlin).—*New Electric Frontal Apparatus and Lamp for Examination of the Throat, Nose and Ear.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 29.

THE electric lamp is combined with a little reflector, which reflects the electric light collected by a lens. *Michael.*

Schleicher, W. (Antwerp).—*On the Galvano-Cautery.* "Monats. für Ohren.," July, 1895.

DR. SCHLEICHER has devised a resistance rheostat attached to the handle of the galvano-caustic snare, by which the strength of the current is diminished at the

same time that the loop is drawn home, and by the same action. In this way the aid of an assistant to work the indispensable rheostat (or other modifying means) is avoided. He further recommends that the cautery wires instead of passing through complete tubes, in which the amount of friction is enormous, should lie exposed except at the points where they may go through small guiding rings. He is in favour of the use of the galvano-caustic snare for the removal of enlarged tonsils. A simplified method for the adaptation of the public electric light installation to galvano-caustic purposes is described in the same paper. (Dr. Macintyre, of Glasgow, devised a means for minimizing the increase of heat during the shortening of the cautery loop, by which the copper leads were drawn back, and not the cautery wire alone.) *Dundas Grant.*

Ullmann (Berlin).—*Treatment of Whooping Cough.* "Archiv für Kinderheilk.," Band II, Heft I.

CHILDREN should be as much as possible in the fresh air.

Michael.

PHARYNX, ŒSOPHAGUS, LARYNX, &C.

Foster, Hal.—*The Use of Local Applications of Guaiacol in Diseases of the Throat.* "Arch. of Ophthal. and Otol.," April, 1895.

PURE guaiacol is advocated as a local application in tonsillitis and tubercular ulcers of the pharynx. *K. Lake.*

Goschel.—Aerztlicher Verein in Nürnberg, Meeting, July 4, 1895.

THE author showed a specimen of *Cancer of the Tongue and Epiglottis*. The patient, thirty-six years old, suffered from pains in the throat and loss of weight. The examination showed the epiglottis to be cancerous, and also that the posterior part of the tongue was affected. The operation of pharyngotomy was performed, and the cancer removed, including the epiglottis and a piece of the tongue. Three weeks later sudden death occurred from hæmorrhage. The *post-mortem* examination showed that an aneurism of the aorta had perforated the œsophagus.

Bauer also relates a case of *Cancer of the Œsophagus combined with Aneurism of the Aorta.* *Michael.*

Dumstrey (Leipzig).—*Dermoid Cyst of the Tongue.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1895, No. 35.

FROM a patient, twenty-seven years old, the author extirpated a tumour of the size of a fist, situated under the tongue. Examination showed it to be a dermoid cyst. *Michael.*

Gouguenheim and Ripault (Paris).—*On Peri-Tonsillar Abscesses.* "Annal. des Mal. de l'Oreille, etc.," Sept., 1894.

THESE authors consider the intra-tonsillar (folliculo-cryptitic) abscess to be much more common than the peri-tonsillar, of both of which they give a clear description. They refer to the rare occurrence of "repeating" peri-tonsillar abscesses, which may leave a sinus of obstinate character, calling for extensive opening. The now recognized site for puncture external to the tonsil is described, and in case of doubt as to the position of the pus, aspiration, by means of a hypodermic syringe, is recommended. They never have recourse to bromide of ethyl or to cocaine. [Our impression is that the peri-tonsillar form is the more frequent. We