DISEASES OF THE EAR, THROAT, AND NOSE.

The Mosher-Toti Operation on the Lachrymal Sac. By H. P. Mosher, Boston (The Laryngoscope, May, 1921).—The writer has carried out this operation on a series of 21 cases. He attacks the sac by both the internal and the external routes. He had made use of the intranasal operation in a number of cases, but the results are in favour of the newer operation. The technique is as follows:—Removal of the anterior end of the middle turbinal; external exposure of the sac by an incision from the crease of the upper eyelid, curving round 6 millimetres from the inner canthus and stopping 2 millimetres below the lower border of the orbit at its inner end. Dissection forward of the sac and exposure of the nasal duct; removal of the lachrymal bone and the posterior border of the ascending process of the superior maxilla; breaking through into the nasal cavity and forming an opening at least as large as the inner wall of the sac; removal of the inner wall of the sac and of the nasal duct; trimming of tags of the middle turbinal and ethmoidal cells. The outer wall of the sac must be left, because it contains the punctum. The author has had uniformly good results from the operation.—Gavin Young.

Diathermy in Inoperable Pharyngeal and Epilaryngeal Malignancy. By Sir Wm. Milligan, M.D. (Journal of Laryngology, August, 1921).—Diathermy is of value in cases where surgical procedure is contra-indicated. Even if it does not effect a radical cure, it ameliorates the patient's condition, gives him for a time a more comfortable life, and may even prolong his days. Malignant cells have lower vitality than healthy ones, and are easily destroyed by the introduction of the "active" electrode which causes coagulation of the tissues, and consequent blocking of the lymphatics and smaller blood-vessels. This prevents dissemination of the cancer cells, and the absorption of septic products of the operation. Milligan classes the advantages and disadvantages as follows:—

Advantages.—1. Diathermy is of value where ordinary surgical procedure is contra-indicated.
2. There is little or no shock as the result.
3. With care in the avoidance of large vessels, or the tying of these when present, the proceeding is bloodless.
4. The tissues become sterilised.
5. Relief from pain very often follows.
6. Septic and broncho-pneumonia are less frequent results than in cutting operations.

Disadvantages.—1. Diathermy destroys both healthy and unhealthy tissues.
2. Secondary haemorrhage occasionally follows.
3. Where skin is involved, the scar may become keloid.—Gavin Young.

Paralysis of the Vocal Cords Secondary to Malignant Disease of the Mamma. By A. Logan Turner, M.D., Edinburgh (Journal of Laryngology, August, 1921).—In twelve years Turner has collected
six examples of this rare condition. The patients had consulted him for hoarseness, and each gave the history of having had one breast and the axillary glands of the same side removed for malignant disease. The hoarseness developed, in the average, three and a half years after the operation.

A vocal cord was found to be in the cadaveric position in each case, the paralysis being homolateral in four cases and contralateral in the remaining two. In five cases the supraclavicular glands were involved at the time of the laryngological examination. In four of these the enlargement was homolateral, in the fifth contralateral.

The writer searches out very thoroughly the path of infection. Briefly, it may be stated that in the cases in which the paralysis was homolateral the permeation probably took place through the axillary and supraclavicular glands, and thence into the intrathoracic glands accompanying the recurrent laryngeal nerve; in the fifth case, the infection was assumed to have travelled by the lymphatics from the inner periphery of the right mamma to the left supraclavicular glands; while in the sixth case the path of infection could only be assumed, as there was no glandular enlargement discoverable.—Gavin Young.

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BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, &c., RECEIVED.

The Care and Feeding of Children: A Catechism for the use of Mothers and Children’s Nurses, by L. Emmett Holt, M.D., LL.D. With an introduction by Eric Pritchard, M.A., M.D.Oxon., M.R.C.P.Lond. Ninth edition, revised and enlarged. London: D. Appleton & Company. 1921. (4s.)

Notes on the Medical Treatment of Disease, for Students and young Practitioners of Medicine, by Robert Dawson Rudolf, C.B.E., M.D.Edin., F.R.C.P. University of Toronto Press. 1921. (25s. net.)

Autoerotic Phenomena in Adolescence: An Analytical Study of the Psychology and Psychopathology of Onanism, by K. Menzies. With a foreword by Dr. Ernest Jones. Second edition. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1921. (5s. net.)

Diseases of the Nervous System, by H. Campbell Thomson, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P. Third edition, revised. With 11 colour and 12 black-and-white plates and 120 figures in the text. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1921. (15s. net.)

The Clinical Examination of the Nervous System, by G. H. Monrad-Krohn, M.D.Christiania, M.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng. With a Foreword by T. Grainger Stewart, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1921. (6s. net.)

A Treatise on Hygiene and Public Health: With Special Reference to the Tropics, by Birendra Nath Ghosh, F.R.F.P.S.G., and Jahar Lal Das, D.P.H. (Cal. Univ.). With an introduction by Colonel Kenneth Macleod, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.S. Fourth edition. Calcutta: Hilton & Company. 1921. (9s. 6d. net.)

What to do in Cases of Poisoning, by William Murrell, M.D., F.R.C.P. Twelfth edition, revised by P. Hamill, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1921. (4s. 6d. net.)