

### THERAPEUTICS.

**Grünberg, Karl.**—*On the Value of the Internal Administration of Potassium Iodide in cases of Tuberculosis of the Upper Air-passages.* "Zeitsch. f. Ohrenheilk.," vol. liii, Part IV.

The writer states that in some cases of tuberculosis of the mucous membrane of the upper air-passages beneficial results are obtained by the internal administration of potassium iodide either with or without local treatment of the lesion. In the cases on which he bases his opinion the diagnosis was verified by microscopical examination of portions of tissue removed.

Extensive tuberculous ulceration with widespread infiltration was not found amenable to the treatment, the best results being obtained in circumscribed tumour-formations.

The potassium iodide probably produces a leucocytosis, especially of mononuclear leucocytes, which give rise to an anti-bacterial substance. Gorescu has shown experimentally that small doses of potassium iodide promote a quick absorption of "tubercles" produced by inoculation in guinea-pigs.

The author's conclusions are :

(1) Primary tuberculous lesions of the upper air-passages heal in many cases through the internal administration of potassium with or without local treatment.

(2) But in so much as such cases occasionally heal spontaneously the cure cannot with certainty be attributed to the potassium iodide, nevertheless, cases which have resisted other methods have often been found to recover under this treatment.

(3) In any case potassium iodide cannot be regarded as an aid to diagnosis between tuberculous and syphilitic lesions.

A short account of six cases is given, which bear out the above statements.

*Lindley Sewell.*

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### REVIEWS.

*Malattie dell'Orecchio del Naso e della Gola.* By DR. TOMMASO MANCIOLI. Pp. 540, with 98 woodcuts. Milan: Ulrico Hoepli, 1907.

This work is issued as one of a set of scientific manuals ("Manuali Hoepli") by the firm of that name. It is a very clever and, with one exception a very complete compendium of diseases of the ear, throat, and nose, for the use of students and practitioners who may require such a work of ready reference. The section on diseases of the ear is perhaps the best, as one might expect from the other writings of one of the leading Roman aurists. The anatomy is given with great clearness, though, of course, briefly, while the account of the diseases and their treatment, especially those of the middle ear and antrum, is an example of succinct thoroughness of which one would scarcely think the language capable in view of the leisurely prolixity of the majority of Italian writers.

One is reminded of the different position dental surgery has long held on the Continent in relation to the medical profession by the inclusion in the section on diseases of the nose and accessory sinuses of a chapter