

is entered in a few seconds. This opening can be enlarged by special cutting forceps to any extent necessary.

The sinus is then curetted and treated antiseptically, the cure usually taking place in one or two months. *Anthony McCall.*

LARYNX AND TRACHEA.

Cheval, V.—*Paralysis of the Left Recurrent Nerve—Large Aneurysm of the Arch of the Aorta—Radiography.* "La Presse Oto-Laryngologique Belge," January, 1902.

A mason, aged seventy-three, consulted the author on account of persistent hoarseness, which proved to be due to paralysis of the left vocal cord. His arteries were degenerated, and there were clear physical signs of a large thoracic aneurysm. Tracheal tugging on holding the larynx between two fingers was well marked.

A radiosopic examination revealed a large opaque tumour occupying the centre of the chest. It consisted of an upper and a lower part, each pulsating independently. The lower part, corresponding in size and characters with a normal heart, lay upon the diaphragm, which bulged downwards. The upper part, which extended to the root of the neck, could be seen to expand during the ventricular systole, and to diminish in volume during diastole. *Chichele Nourse.*

Delsaux, V.—*Preliminary Note on the Treatment of Lupus of the Upper Respiratory Tract by Radium.* "La Presse Oto-Laryngologique Belge," August, 1903.

A small glass bulb, hermetically sealed, containing 20 milligrammes of bromide of radium was fastened to a metal collar. When screwed to the extremity of a straight or curved metal stem with a handle, this formed an instrument for introduction into the nose or throat.

The duration of each application was limited at first to one minute and then gradually increased to five minutes. The first effect observed in a case of lupus of the pharynx and larynx was anæmia of the diseased surface adjacent to the bulb; at the same time the patient felt a slight sensation of constriction. After the sixth application œdema of the epiglottis set in, which subsided quickly under simple treatment. Simultaneously the other affected parts showed an energetic reaction. After this the daily applications were limited to forty-five seconds.

At the time of the report the nineteenth séance had been reached. The author considers that the beneficial effect produced surpasses that of any other therapeutic agent. He is also trying the treatment for œzæna and for laryngeal tuberculosis. *Chichele Nourse.*

• EAR.

Jürgens, E.—*Three Cases of Congenital Atresia of the External Auditory Meatus with Microtia.* "La Presse Oto-Laryngologique Belge," July, 1903.

Cases of this congenital abnormality seldom occur in medical literature. Ruedi, in his thesis on the subject (Bâle, 1899), has collected barely fifty.

Of the three cases here recorded, the first is that of a man with

arrested development of the left side of the head. His left auricle was replaced by a cutaneous cushion; the mastoid process was absent on that side; and there was no trace of a meatus. He was completely deaf on the left side.

The second, a man in whom the right external auditory meatus was absent and the right auricle quite rudimentary, but the mastoid process normally developed. There was some hearing-power on the affected side.

The third case was an infant three months old, with both auricles absent and complete atresia of both external auditory canals. Hearing-power for the tuning-fork and for the voice appeared to exist.

Chichele Nourse.

Klug (Budapest).—*Contagion in Acute Middle-Ear Disease.* “*Annales des Maladies de l’Oreille,*” etc., August, 1903.

Klug believes that acute otitis often appears in epidemic form, not necessarily as a sequela of influenza.

He gives cases and advocates isolation; he favours the use of carbolyzed glycerine.

Anthony McCall.

Lévy.—*Canula for washing out Attic and Sinus.* “*Annales des Maladies de l’Oreille,*” etc., August, 1903.

Lévy describes a canula, attached by rubber tubing to a reservoir, which has a stopcock regulated by pressure of the thumb.

By its use the assistance of the patient can be dispensed with and the stream can be directed and regulated to a nicety.

Anthony McCall.

Somers, Lewis S. (Philadelphia).—*The Theory of Cross-Education as applied to the Auditory Apparatus.* “*American Journal of Medical Sciences,*” October, 1902.

The author of this paper being convinced of the tangibility of Scripture’s theory of cross-education as applied to many symmetrical parts of the body, investigated its application to the auditory apparatus. Cases of chronic sclerotic catarrh without nerve involvement were selected, with a view to discover what effect mechanical movement of the chain of ossicles would induce on the hearing power of the opposite ear.

Having carefully gauged the auditory power of both ears for voice, watch, and fork, movement of the ossicular chain was brought about by means of Siegle’s speculum, alternately rarefying and compressing the air in the external auditory meatus.

The right membrana tympani and ossicles were subjected to fifteen massage movements on alternate days for ten days, at the end of which time the left ear was tested. The result in every case showed a considerable gain in hearing power.

The writer’s first experiment was performed on a woman, aged thirty-eight. Hearing impaired one year; drumheads thickened and retracted on both sides; Eustachian tubes patulous; tinnitus, musical in character. The voice was only heard by both ears when loudly elevated; watch, $R = \frac{0}{54}$, $L = \frac{C}{54}$ on first day of trial. On the tenth day the hearing power in the right side was $\frac{3}{54}$, whilst that of the left side (the unexercised ear) was $\frac{2\frac{3}{4}}{54}$, showing an improvement of $2\frac{1}{4}$.

The second subject experimented on was a male, aged fifty. Deaf-

ness and tinnitus four years; drumheads thickened and retracted; "Rinne" positive in both ears; "Weber" positive right side; watch heard in both ears only on contact, whilst a moderately loud voice could be easily understood. The case was diagnosed as one of chronic otitis media without marked changes in the internal ear or auditory nerve. After massage of the right ear in the same manner as in the preceding experiment for ten days, it was found that power of audition in left ear had increased from $\frac{C}{54}$ to $\frac{1}{54}$.

During these experiments it was noticed that the tinnitus was relieved in the unexercised ear, though not to the extent experienced in the right ear.

The author thinks these synergic phenomena may be dependent on anatomical correlation of the auditory nerves. A portion of the fibres of the eighth nerve at their origin is in close connection with a mass of motor cells in the medulla, and these fibres are continued into the inferior peduncles of the cerebellum. There is also a decussation of the fibres in the trapezoid bodies, which is suggestive of some correlation of auditory impressions or other stimuli in the higher centres of the two symmetrical organs. This anatomical feature is still more in favour of the possibility of cross-education, seeing that each nerve communicates with both centres, and that each possesses both decussating and non-decussating fibres.

As instancing the effect in a passive and retrogressive sense, which a morbid condition of one ear exercises on the other, he quotes a case observed by Outpenski where, in a man suffering from acute unilateral otitis and bilateral deafness, it was found on examination that a piece of wool was firmly impacted on the membrane of the inflamed ear: immediately after its removal hearing became normal in both ears. Akin to this are the beneficial effects on the non-operated ear frequently noticed on the removal of one or more ossicles in sclerotic otitis media.

After citing many other instances of correlation between the two organs, he sums up by saying that the phenomena of cross-education in relation to the auditory apparatus can be readily demonstrated, and that the correlation between the auditory mechanism of opposite sides of the body is that of so-called cross-education.

The relationship of the fibres of one auditory nerve with those of the other, and with the higher centres in close relation with the nerves from both sides, evidently, in part at least, shows the path by which stimuli applied to one side in turn influence the other correlated area.

H. Clayton Fox.

Wolff, L. (Frankfurt-am-Main).—*The Contagiousness of Acute Otitis Media.* "Arch. of Otol.," vol. xxxii., No. 2.

The writer considers that acute otitis media is not contagious unless it is secondary to a contagious disease, such as measles, scarlet fever, or influenza.

Dundas Grant.

Zaufal (Prag).—*Exposure and Irrigation of the Bulb of the Internal Jugular Vein in the Operation for Septic Sinus-Thrombosis.* "Arch. für Ohrenheilkunde," March, 1903.

Zaufal considers Piff's method of exposure easier than Grunert's, but inferior to the latter in not leaving an uninterrupted half-channel.

Dundas Grant.