

## Abstracts.

### EAR.

**A Factor in the Prognosis of Acute Suppuration of the Middle Ear.**—**F. E. Franchere.** "Annals of Otology," xxv, p. 857.

This factor is the variation in the cellular structure of the mastoid. The author advises X-ray examination in all cases of acute middle-ear suppuration, as the results will aid any decision as to opening the mastoid.  
*MacLeod Yearsley.*

**Acute Circumscribed Labyrinthitis.**—**Chalmette.** "Rev. de Laryngol., d'Otol., et de Rhinol.," May 31, 1917.

The interest of the case related lies in the sequence of clinical and surgical events.

*First.*—A definitely proved acute circumscribed labyrinthitis was successfully treated by expectant methods.

*Secondly.*—As soon as, but not until the labyrinthine symptoms had entirely subsided, the mastoid antrum was opened and drained.

The author's claim is that this case strongly supports an opinion which he (not alone—Abs.) holds; that such lesions have a natural tendency to spontaneous recovery, and that to operate during the evolution of a circumscribed labyrinthitis is to risk lighting up a fatal general labyrinthine and meningeal infection.

*H. Lawson Whale.*

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**Bronchoscopy in the Treatment of Asthma.**—**W. S. Syme.** "Brit. Med. Journ.," June 30, 1917.

After referring to the nasal treatment of asthma and to the importance of investigating the accessory sinuses, the writer proceeds to relate the histories of eight cases in which there was no nasal abnormality, and which were treated by the direct application of 10 per cent. solution of silver nitrate to the lining of the bronchi with the aid of the bronchoscope.

With the exception of a boy, aged ten, the painting of all cases was carried out under local anæsthesia, the patient lying on the left side with the head thrown back.

A fairly acute reaction followed, necessitating confinement to bed for a day or two.

The results of this procedure are said to be surprisingly good.

*Douglas Guthrie.*

**Observations on Chloramines as Nasal Antiseptics.**—**E. K. Dunham and H. D. Dakin.** "Brit. Med. Journ.," June 30, 1917.

The disinfection of the nasopharynx in meningococcus carriers has lately been the subject of much experimental research.

In the present paper the use of a 2 per cent. solution of dichloramine-T. in eucalyptol is recommended in the form of a spray.

The experimental results are tabulated and the chemistry and mode of preparation of the solution described. The article is very suggestive, but should be read in its entirety.

*Douglas Guthrie.*