

gators into the effect of the actinic rays on vegetable and animal protoplasm; of these observations many instances are given. The analysis of white light and the reference of the activities to one or other end of the spectrum is dwelt on, as also is the similarity in action of the electric arc light and sunlight. This similarity is so close that the electric light can be substituted for sunlight, and the dose regulated with the nicety of a dose of medicine.

The value of Kellogg's electric-light bath, the first of its kind, is next treated of, and the apparatus described and its modifications. As a means of promoting perspiration it promises to supersede the usual vapour and hot-air baths, and it possesses the great advantage of being much safer in respect of its action on the heart. In addition, however, to its use as a sudorific, it must exert a penetrative action upon the tissues, as, indeed, has been established. In numerous affections the electric bath has been tried, *e. g.*, acute and chronic rheumatisms, chills, catarrhs, intoxications (including auto-intoxications), gout, diabetes, etc. We learn that neurasthenics do not bear the ordinary electric bath well; but even these can be treated by modifications, *e. g.*, Kattenbracker's, and the bath in which the arc light is employed can, by means of blue glass, be made even sedative to the nervous system. Finsen's light treatment of course finds mention. The paper is a very interesting one.

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*Mercurial Injections in Syphilis* [*Les injections mercurielles dans la syphilis*]. (*Journ. de Méd. de Bord., Nos. 4 and 5, 1901.*) Guérin, A.

This method of treatment finds much greater favour abroad than in this country, though, according to weighty authorities, it is a very powerful means of cure. Guérin gives as indications for the hypodermic treatment, the rapid progress of the disease with early visceral or nervous developments, and with the tendency to frequent relapses. Injections are also to be employed to save the stomach where this is irritable. Guérin suggests that the injection may be employed as a legitimate ruse when the patient refuses to undergo the usual mercurial course. To the patient the suggestion is then made of a serum treatment by injections, and the bichloride of mercury is added to preserve the serum! Some authors advise the mercurial injection so soon as the diagnosis of the hard chancre has been established. The use of mercury in the insoluble and soluble form, in the massive or the fractional dose, is then discussed, and suitable formulæ are appended. The importance of the technique is insisted upon, and the details are briefly given. Upon the whole, where this method is determined upon the bichloride of mercury dissolved in sodium chloride solution 0.7 *per cent.* would seem to be as useful a preparation as any, and it is by far the simplest.

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*Two Hundred Operative Cases—Insane Women.* (*Trans. Amer. Med.-Psych. Assoc., May, 1900.*) Bucke, R. M.

The author here reports the gynæcological work accomplished at the Asylum for the Insane, London, Ontario, up to the present date. Operations have been performed in 200 cases, including curettage,