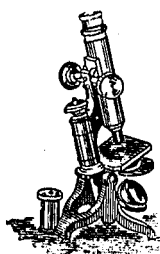


Medical Matters.

MALARIA IN THE AGRO ROMANO.



The Italian Red Cross Society, which has been rendering conspicuous service to the Agro Romano by a campaign against the dreaded malaria, has just issued its annual report on the work completed. The inspector, Dr. Postempski, has been received at the Quirinal by the King of Italy. His Majesty takes the greatest interest in the doings of the Society, and he has just contributed out of his private purse a sum of 10,000 lire towards the expenses entailed. Dr. Postempski states that the name "malaria" is a false term to give to the illness which prevails in the Agro Romano. The infection is caused entirely by the mosquitoes, and if only the inhabitants would take the requisite precautions they would remain entirely immune from all ill-effects. The air in the infected parts is perfectly good, and this is most satisfactorily proved by the fact that the officers of the Society remain for whole nights exposed to the air of the Agro Romano and receive no harm. The six zones in which the Red Cross Society has been active are: Santa Maria di Galera (with a population of 2,460 inhabitants), Castel di Guido (1,630), Carano (2,450), Pratica di Mare (1,780), Torre Nuova (2,680), and Marcigliana (1,630). It will be seen, therefore, that help has been thus brought to a total population of 12,630. The number of malarial cases cured amounted to 2,581, and other patients numbered 1,103, making a total of 3,684 cures. A scheme is on foot for the erection of four permanent hospitals in the Agro Romano itself.

TRUE CYSTITIS.

True cases of cystitis are very rare. There is a great deal of difference between cystitis and an irritation of the bladder.

Dr. William F. Waugh, in the *Alkaloidal Clinic*, says the bladder is to be treated with the utmost distrust. It is to be regarded as ready to fly into a furious inflammation at the slightest provocation.

Disinfect the bladder first by a week's use of hexamethylin-tetramine.

Have the patient urinate just before using the catheter to wash away microbes from the urethra.

Have your catheter well soaked in 2 per cent. formalin solution, then warmed and lubricated with europhenaristol with petrolatum. Have the fountain syringe and its tube washed out with 2 per cent. formalin solution.

Be sure no air can enter the bladder.

Have the catheter and solutions properly warmed.

Introduce the catheter with the utmost gentleness. If obstruction is encountered, remove the catheter, fill a straight hard-rubber uterine syringe with the europhen oil, and, passing the nozzle down the urethra to the obstruction, fill the canal with the oil, and the catheter will pass readily.

Pass the catheter to the bladder, but not into it. This is most important.

Saturated boric acid solution, hot water with hamamelis, one drop of dilute nitric acid to the ounce, five grains protargol or two grains argonin to the pint, are useful and soothing. Do not use toxic solutions or irritants in the bladder.

GERMS OF CONSUMPTION.

At a recent lecture given under the auspices of the Committee on Prevention of Tuberculosis in New York, Dr. J. H. Huddleston's subject was "Germs of Consumption: What They Are, and What They Do." The gist of Dr. Huddleston's address was as follows:—

"Every person has five lines of defence:

"1. The hair in the nose sifts the air as it enters.

"2. The cilia, which are like a beard on the lining membrane of the air-vessels, serve by their motion to carry out germs which enter.

"3. If the germs get through the membranes of the lungs into the blood, they are sifted out by natural filters, which are usually called lymph glands.

"4. If the germs pass still farther, they are attacked by phagocytes, which are the fighting cells of the body.

"5. The body itself is an unsuitable soil for the germs in many instances. This so-called natural immunity is affected by the environment; lessened, for example, by bad air and by bad hygienic surroundings; affected also by occupations. Some occupations injure the lungs by the dust which they throw off. Finally, it depends on the local condition of the part affected, which is often influenced by a pre-existing bronchitis or measles or influenza."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)