

## Medical Matters.

### SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR INTRACTABLE HAY FEVER.



Dr. Eugene S. Yonge, Honorary Physician to the Manchester Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Throat, writing in the *Lancet* on "The Treatment of Intractable Hay Fever and Paroxysmal Coryza by Resection of the Nasal Nerve," speaks of this method of treat-

ment as applicable to severe and intractable cases, and says that up to the present it has given the most satisfactory and encouraging results. He says:—The strongest evidence in favour of the theory, if *ex post facto* proof may here be considered, is supplied by the effects which have been observed to follow bilateral resection of the nasal nerve. In various forms of vaso-motor rhinitis in which this operation has been performed by me, the symptoms have been completely and, up to the present, lastingly abolished. It may be mentioned that in the first case in which the operation was performed the nerve, to begin with, was divided on the right side only. As a result of this procedure, the symptoms—intermittent nasal obstruction with profuse hypersecretion—were abolished in the nasal cavity corresponding to that on which the nerve had been divided, whereas the disturbances continued to recur periodically in the opposite nasal cavity, as before the operation. The sensation experienced when these attacks occurred was described by the patient as a "feeling of the nose being divided in half," one side being clear and the other obstructed. The asthmatic attacks from which the patient suffered also continued to recur at intervals. After section of the nerve on the left side, the nasal symptoms entirely disappeared and the attacks of asthma ceased.

The considerations which, in the first instance, suggested that resection of the nerve might be performed with a successful result in severe cases of hay fever and paroxysmal coryza in which other methods had failed, were of course those relating to the functions and distribution of the nerve.

The first case which was operated indicates the nature of the procedure and the description of case for which Dr. Yonge has felt justified in recommending it:—

In this case the patient, who before the operation suffered great distress and frequently "wished he was dead," subsequently enjoyed good rest at night and gained half a stone in weight in two months.

## The Effects of Infantile Malnutrition as Found in School Children.

By T. N. KELYNACK, M.D., M.R.C.P.,  
*Hon. Physician to the Infants' Hospital;*  
*Medical Adviser to the National Children's*  
*Home and Orphanage.*

### A LECTURE DELIVERED AT THE INFANTS' HOSPITAL, WESTMINSTER, S.W

In our previous lectures we have considered various classes of infant weaklings.

But we cannot remain content with a study only of infant conditions. We must regard the infant as a means to an end, viz., the rearing of a healthy child, the production of a useful man or woman.

Man differs from the lower animals in that he is a creature who can look before and after. We have been granted the great gifts of anticipation and retrospection.

And we need to use these powers in the consideration of the subject under discussion to-day.

Those of us who are engaged in the study and care of infants are constantly asking ourselves the question—What sort of children will these premature, these immature, these defective infants make?

And those who are charged with the heavy responsibilities of managing and educating children of school age are often inclined to enquire what sort of an infancy their charges have passed through.

Some would forecast the future, and others would read the records of the past.

For a complete study of the problem, both points of view are necessary.

In a measure, at all events, I can claim to have opportunities for investigating the problem both in infancy and in childhood, for here, in the Infants' Hospital, we see the marring in the making, and as medical adviser to one of our national institutions dealing with something like 2,000 children of all ages, I see many wrecked and maimed from infantile disease, and malnutrition, and neglect during life's dawn.

The first year is probably the most important year in life's calendar. In a great measure it is true that according to the management during this important period a life may be made or ruined.

A mere human yearling seems a comparatively insignificant unit, but it possesses potentialities and powers which rightly preserved

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)