with regard to the rarity of inflammatory affections of this cavity in the negro race compared with that of the white races. Stoker ("Brit. Laryng. Assoc.," July, 1895) expects to obtain brilliant, or, at all events remarkable results by the oxygen treatment, basing his deductions on investigations in open wounds, in which the presence of micro-organisms, rather contrary to the general idea, act beneficially. He has at present, however, recorded no cases. Ziem ("Journ. Laryng.," Oct., Nov., Dec., 1895), in a most admirable monograph, reviews the history of the various operations, commencing in the last century; next deals with the various accidents liable to be met with, dealing especially with the dental burr. The objections against Cooper's method are: a sound tooth is often sacrificed; the space is not sufficient; re-infection may take place from the mouth. He deals with these objections *seriatim*, showing how even local anæsthesia is not necessary, and that, by means of a force-pump, washing out can be accomplished through the smallest opening. He has even in one case penetrated to the depth of forty-five millimètres without striking the cavity. One should always work slowly and carefully. Another thing he is very emphatic about is that by far the best irrigating fluids for this purpose are boiled water, Tavel's solution, or a weak solution of Kreuznack salt—that is to say, he is in accord with Krieg that chemistry will not assist us here. Most unfortunately, he gives no detailed statistics of his cases. He also points out that fluid is able to escape quite freely from the antrum if the normal opening is patent.

R. Lake.

PHARYNX.

In our last retrospect we pointed out that each year's review of the work done was a matter of increasing difficulty, and the same might be said again. Every part of the upper respiratory tract has been more and more investigated, details and elaborations are constantly being recorded, and a retrospect covering the whole ground would occupy more space than we have at our disposal. The importance of etiology is being more than ever recognized, and it is extremely interesting to note the change which has come over our views on the subject from the literature of the past year. The most important work of all, of course, has been shown in the influence of bacteriological research, which in this department, as in many other branches of surgery, has practically revolutionized our ideas of causation. Not only is this the case, but the reports of recent discussions and papers during the year show the keenest interest centred in the classification of disease.

Prof. Fraenkel, of Berlin, and Macintyre, of Glasgow, introduced a discussion upon the *Causation of Follicular Tonsillitis* at the summer meeting of the British Medical Association, and the remarks which followed showed how much the majority of observers are impressed with the importance of studying the pathogenic micro-organisms to which most acute affections are now attributed, although their identity has not yet always been established. No doubt, as pointed out elsewhere, the subject of greatest interest in diseases of the region has been associated

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with the consideration of the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus and its life-history, together with the attempt to prevent mortality by the use of antitoxin.

John Sendziak (like many others) has contributed to the subject in a series of papers published in our JOURNAL during the year, under the heading of so-called *Follicular Angina and its Relationship to Diphtheria.*

The study of the acute inflammations of the pharynx and adjoining regions has been pursued with an amount of zeal never excelled in the past: the relationship of certain causes to the effects, the local and constitutional evidences to be observed, are all being carefully judged from the same standpoint. And now that the attention of the profession has been thoroughly awakened to the importance of the study of etiology further developments must soon follow, not only in classification but in prophylaxis—and it is to be hoped also in therapeutics. While etiology has attracted a considerable amount of attention, a large number of observers have been devoting themselves to the study of therapeutics. As usual, a considerable number of improvements have been suggested in surgical apparatus, and cases have been recorded in abundance. If, therefore, we have not had any startling discovery to record, there is, as we have pointed out, sufficient evidence of continued interest and vitality in the study of disease of these regions.

LARYNX.

A large number of papers have again been published upon the affections of this organ, and much interest is attached to the clinical work; while physiology and anatomy have been still further investigated. A prominent paper is that read by Risien Russell in the section of Laryngology at the British Medical Association Meeting in London last year. The writer of this paper has gone carefully into the subject of the work done previously by Horsley, Semon, and others. In a careful series of experiments, ingeniously devised and successfully carried out, by means of separating the abductor from the abductor fibres in the recurrent laryngeal nerves he has been able to show that there is a centre for abduction in the cortex. The President (Felix Semon) congratulated Risien Russell upon the splendid results, and said the merit of having actually discovered the abductor centres in the cortex undoubtedly belonged to Russell.

Onodi, at the Sixty-sixth Congress of the German Naturalists and Physicians of Vienna, in their Laryngological section again wrote upon the *Centres of Phonation in the Brain*, and gave another interesting contribution to the relationship of the accessory nerves to the innervation of the larynx. His experiments were made upon dogs and rabbits, and the most thorough experiments in different directions led him to the conclusion that the accessory nerves take no part in the innervation of the laryngeal muscles.

An interesting discussion on the subject of *Chronic Laryngeal Stenosis* took place at the summer meeting of the British Medical Association, when the introductory paper was read by Prof. Massei, of Naples. The remarks which followed were extremely interesting, and showed the

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