Wolfenden ("Brit. Journ. Laryng.," July, 1896, p. 1) draws attention to the question of the spread of disease in schools. Smith, of the London School Board, concludes, after inquiry into 2168 cases, that school plays an unimportant part in the enormous increase of this affection. Shirley Murphy combats this view, and holds that during the school season there is an increase. Lennox Browne (p. 309) has collected a valuable review of the records of others. It need scarcely be pointed out that in such an important question as the serum treatment both sides of the question deserve careful attention. He has collected names of authors "who are adverse, or who deprecate the extravagant enthusiasm of others." He quotes the dangers recorded as complications:—Baginsky, cardiac failure; Soerensen, hæmorrhagic nephritis; Oertel, Hansemann, Benda, Siegert, albuminuria. Klebs, Fraser, Kortright, and Kassowitz's names are cited as raising doubt as to the immunizing power.

The question of how far the results may be influenced by combining serum treatment with other constitutional local aids also receives attention, while the statistics of the Metropolitan Asylums Board are critically examined. The "Lancet" Commission has during the year gone extensively into a most important point, viz., on the relative strengths of diphtheria antitoxic serum.

MOUTH AND PHARYNX.

BY A. SANDFORD, M.D.

With the ever increasing number of *special* societies and of reports from other sources the difficulties of attempting anything approaching an exhaustive synopsis of the work brought forward during the year have proportionately increased. Moreover, the space required for a comprehensive retrospect would far exceed that available for such a purpose. It will, therefore, not be possible to attempt more than a brief reference to the more interesting points embraced in the year's work, with he mere mention of the communications upon various subjects which have appeared or received notice in this JOURNAL during the past year.

Nothing of a sensational character, or even approaching to first-class importance, has been achieved in connection with affections of the mouth and pharynx; but a considerable amount of steady work has been recorded, proving the existence of a constant spirit of scientific investigation, which has, with concentrated attention, been actively engaged on every possible source of fresh information.

The importance of thorough *antisepsis* of the mouth and pharynx has been dwelt upon by various authorities in relation to the protection and treatment of adjacent organs, thus guarding the main portal against the admission of hostile germs. For this purpose, among the various well-known agents, a solution of fluoride of sodium (up to 1 per cent.) has been recommended as a wash. Pedley has treated of the reflexes arising from neglected children's teeth. Kobner uses belladonna in full doses in cases

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of leucoplakia, mercurial stomatitis, etc. Lennox Browne has suggested that the time-honoured "gargle" should be abolished as a means of ocal therapeutics in favour of sprays, lozenges, etc. ; and Guye, of Amsterdam, Grant, and others have given a qualified support to this suggestion.

The *lingual tonsil* has received considerable attention ; and its pathological importance, both direct and indirect, has been dwelt upon forcibly by various authorities. Amongst them, Escat ("Rev. de Laryng.") indicates the diagnostic points of phlegmonous lingual amygdalitis. Swain ("Trans. Amer. Lar. Assoc.") calls attention to the non-recognition hitherto of symptoms arising from acute disease of the lingual tonsil. Clark ("Philadel. Polyclinic") reports seven cases of hypertrophy of the lingual tonsil, and discusses at length the history, physiology, etiology, and treatment of this affection. Beausoleil ("Rev. de Laryng.") describes fully the symptoms, attendant phenomena, and treatment of acute disease of the lingual tonsil. Lennox Browne ("Liv. Med. Chir. Journ.") enters minutely into the subject of chronic hypertrophy of the lingual tonsil in connection with lingual varex, giving elaborate statistics ; and the same author ("Med. Mag.") discusses Wingrave's views on the anatomy of the tongue, and describes inflammatory affections of the lingual tonsil. Downie ("Glas. Med. Journ.") refers to pathological changes in the lingual tonsil as a factor in causing aprosexia and as a chaunel for introduction of germs into the lymph channels. Bronner (Lar. Soc. Lond.) showed a case of myxoma of the lingual tonsil. Ray ("Med. News") attributes various troubles to "hypertrophy of lymphoid ti ssue at base of tongue in singers." Hulen ("N. Y. Med. Journ.") reports a case of cavernous angioma of the tongue. Akerblom ("Monats. für Ohrenheilk.") records a case of acute inflammation of the ductus rivina and sublingual gland. Lupus of the tongue and pharynx has been treated by Law, Stabb, Spire, and others. Onodi (Pesth) has reported cases of fibro-sarcoma of the tongue and lipoma of the tonsil ("Monats. für Ohrenheilk."). Carcinoma and other tumours of the tongue have been considered by Herzfeld (Berlin Lar. Soc.), Anderson ("Quart. Med. Journ."), etc., etc. Helbnig ("Jahrb. für Kinderheilk.") describes a case of muscular macroglossia. Evans ("Med. News") reports four cases of chancre of tongue and tonsil. Arslan, of Padua ("Bollet. delle Mal. dell' Orecchi," etc.), makes an exhaustive analysis of the whole subject of tumours of the tonsil up to date. Rosenberg ("Rev. de Laryng.") discusses the subject of tuberculosis of the tonsil, his cases being about one in one thousand at his polyclinic. Sir Willoughby Wade ("Brit. Med. Journ.") calls attention to tonsillitis as a factor in rheumatic fever. Newman (Laryng. Soc., Lond.) describes cases of carcinoma and epithelioma of tonsil. A case of alarming hæmorrhage after tonsillotomy, recorded by Piergelli ("Arch. Ital. di Otol., Rinol., Laring."), necessitated ligature of right common carotid. Burgess (Royal Acad. Med., Ireland) reports a case of severe hæmorrhage from ulceration in acute tonsillitis. Kendal ("Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc.") suggests reduction of enlarged tonsils, by means of fuming hydrochloric acid applied on a glass point. Purvis ("Brit. Med. Journ.") describes the microscopic appearances of a tuberculous tonsil.

Furet (Soc. Franç. d'Otol. et de Laryng.) discusses reflex tonsillar

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cough. Broeckhaert (Belg. Soc. of Otol. and Laryng,) enters at considerable length into the subject ot acute lacunar tonsillitis. Straight ("N. Y. Med. Journ.") reports two cases of unresolved amygdalitis ; and Lacoarret ("Rev. de Laryng.") a case of post-diphtheritic pseudo-hypertrophy of the tonsils. Cases of congenital perforation of the fauces have been reported by Lapalle and Huysman ; whilst a case of apertures in both anterior pillars of the fauces has been recorded by Fullerton ("Brit. Med. Journ."). Several cases of Ludwig's angina, varying in the prominent group of symptoms peculiar to each, have been treated of by Ripault, Taylor, Ficano, Froquart, and Vergely. Semon (Laryng. Soc., Lond.) records a case of chronic retropharyngeal abscess in the adult ; and Kolpiak ("N. Y. Med. Journ."), in a paper on acute retro-pharyngeal abscess in childhood, brings forward the experience gathered from seventy-six cases seen in six years, and discusses their classification and treatment. Stewart (Laryng. Soc., Lond.) records a case of œsophageal malignant disease in a girl of twenty-three years of age, and Butlin mentions a well-marked case in a girl of twenty-four. Brewer (N. Y. Acad. of Med.) records a fatal case of pharyngeal hæmorrhage. Myles (N. Y. Acad. of Med.) describes a case of central cleft of the soft palate in an adult successfully operated upon. Boltz (Hamburg) records a case of round-celled sarcoma of soft palate cured by extirpation.

Jamieson ("Brit. Med. Journ.") produced a paper on superficial affections of the lips. Ravogli ("Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc.") discusses the subject of syphilid of the pharynx. Stewart ("Brit. Med. Journ.") records a case of tuberculosis of the tonsil. Tubercle of the pharynx has been treated of by Clifford, Beale, Chappel, Levy, and others. Vallas ("Gaz. des Hôpitaux") discusses pharyngotomous, transhyoidea, and describes operation. Dukes ("Lancet") gives a record of sore throats occurring amongst four hundred adolescents during twenty-five years. Fox ("Lancet") discusses the abortive treatment of quinsy. Lichtwitz (Bordeaux) records a case of angioma of pharynx. Mixter ("Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.") brings forward cases of parotid tumours appearing in fauces. Chappell ("New York Med. Journ.") records three cases of xerostoma. Fournier (Paris) sounds a note of warning in regard to cases of syphilitic infection communicated by and to medical men through instruments, etc. Morrow ("Brit. Med. Journ.") describes three cases of parotiditis associated with pelvic disease. Campbell ("Med. News") treats of pharyngo-mycosis leptothrix. Nicholls ("Amer. Laryng. Assoc.") opened a discussion on the sequelæ of syphilis. Meyer("Berlin Laryng. Soc.") discusses autoscopy and œsophagoscopy. Beuermann ("New York Med. Journ.") discusses the differential diagnosis between benign lymphosarcoma and malignant lymphomyelia. Grumach (Reisenberg) records a case of hairy pharyngeal polypus. Ebstein (Vienna Soc. Laryng.) exhibited the instrument he employs for œsophageal endoscopy. Gaultier ("Thèse de Paris") treat of pneumococcal affection of the pharynx. Thoyer-Rozat ("Thèse de Paris") has a thesis on retro-pharyngeal abscess in children, describing symptoms and treatment. Egger ("Ann. des Mal. de l'Oreille et du Laryng.") records two cases of velo-palatine insufficiency (congenital). Murray and Walsh

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(" Med. Rec.") discuss the bacteriology of mumps. Price (" Med. and Surg. Reporter ") records a case of foreign body in the œsophagus located by Röntgen rays, and removed. Schmidt (Dusseldorf) discusses cicatricial adhesions of the pharynx and their treatment. Chappel (New York Acad. Med.) read a paper on primary and secondary pharyngeal tuberculosis. Kayser (" Therap. Monats.") has a paper on so-called pharyngo-therapy. Richey (" Ann. of Oph. and Otol.") discusses varieties of treatment under the title of " Fads and Fashions."

Considerable advances have been made in the perfecting of instruments and appliances, and some new instruments have been exhibited and described.

From the above brief *résumé* of the subjects which have been touched upon during the year, it will be evident that no region of the mouth or pharynx has been considered too barren for exploration ; no morbid condition too commonplace or too recondite for consideration ; and no subject too trivial for investigation and discussion, if it affords possibilities of increasing useful knowledge.

NOSE AND NASO-PHARYNX.

BY R. LAKE, F.R.C.S.

ATROPHIC RHINITIS. — Capart and Cheval have continued the electrolytic treatment of *Ozæna* which was referred to in the Retrospect of last year. The needles preferred are of copper. The former, in a paper at the Belgian Society of Otology and Laryngology (" Journ. Laryng.," XI., 326), discusses the etiology very fully, in which he does not uphold the tropho-neurosis theory, but attributes it to general nutritive changes. He does not attach any value to vibro-massage, where he has our approval. By the bipolar method of electrolysis, he says, ninety per cent. of the cases can be cured, using a twenty milliampère current for twenty minutes. He says also, and which is very important, that in three hundred séances he has had not the slightest accident. Bayer, on the other hand, lost a patient from meningitis, a sequel of hæmorrhagic otitis media, but it seems that this was equally likely to be coincidence as effect. Pocher has tried most remedies without any striking result, and still is open to conviction of the efficacy of any treatment (" Trans. S. Carolina Med. Assoc.," April, 1896, and " Journ. Laryng.," XI., 11). Sattler (" Clin. Chron.," May, 1896) considers the disease to be a true degenerative process of the trophic nerves of the mucosa involved. He advocates simple cleansing. Belfanti and Della Vedova (" Gaz. Med. de Turin ") maintain that ozœna is due to an attenuated diphtheria bacillus, and also that they have cured cases by injection of antitoxin ; whilst Fage (" Rev. de Laryng.") attributes the disease to Löwenberg's cocco bacillus.

MEMBRANOUS RHINITIS.—This disease appears to be gradually going the same way as " membranous " croup—that is to say, nearly every case appears to show Klebs-Loeffler bacillus in culture ; and, indeed, it would be strange were there not organisms found in the membrane

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