

for malignant growths, if they perforated into a cavity where it met with no resistance at all, to become pedunculated. Therefore, having regard to the rapidity of recurrence and ulcerated appearance of the growth in conjunction with this tendency, he had little doubt that Dr. Tilley's case was one of malignancy.

In answer to Sir Felix Semon, Dr. HERBERT TILLEY said that he thought the growth would not turn out to be one of the most malignant forms of sarcoma, in spite of the fact that it had already recurred twice after removal. Its non-vascular nature and free mobility would suggest a preponderance of fibroid tissue rather than the embryonic tissue associated with the more malignant forms of sarcoma.

## Abstracts.

### NOSE AND ACCESSORY SINUSES.

Lake, R.—*The Restoration of the Inferior Turbinate Body by Paraffin Injections in the Treatment of Atrophic Rhinitis.* "Lancet," January 17, 1903.

White paraffin wax melting at 105° F. is used. The syringe should hold about 30 minims, and be armed with a needle about 2½ inches long. The same precautions are used as for paraffin injections under the skin of the nose. In suitable cases the turbinate has been replaced with one injection of about 25 minims of melted wax. In other cases it is necessary to inject several minims every week.

As a result the patients feel more comfortable in the nose, and crust formation is more rapidly checked.

*StClair Thomson.*

### THYROID AND TRACHEA.

Carnegie Dickson, W. E.—*Expectoration of a Tooth Thirteen Months after Inhalation into the Lung.* "Lancet," February 28, 1903.

The patient had twelve stumps removed from the upper jaw, on two consecutive days, under gas. After the second day's operation he had a slight feeling of uneasiness behind the sternum. A month later he developed influenza, and suffered from aphonia for some days. Two months later he had an attack of pleurisy. Following this he was much troubled with cough, expectoration, hæmoptysis, and, in short, many of the symptoms of phthisis, for which he was treated, although tubercle bacilli were never found in his sputum. Finally, while lying quietly in bed, he felt a "sort of obstruction" in his chest, and coughed up a large mouthful of bright, red-clotted blood. In this he felt something hard, which proved to be the fang of an upper molar tooth. The case is of considerable interest to both the dentist and the physician.

*StClair Thomson.*

**Cristiani.**—*Experimental Infective Neothyroiditis.* "Revue Méd. de la Suisse Romande," June, 1903.

In earlier papers Cristiani reported his experiments on the transplanting of thyroid grafts, and showed that such grafts became active functioning thyroid glands. The present paper records his observations on the powers of such grafts to withstand or recover from various inflammatory processes.

The animals used were rabbits, guinea-pigs, and white rats. The grafts were placed in pockets formed between the skin and cartilage of the lobe of the ear, and allowed to remain various periods, from a few days to several months, before being submitted to experiment, so that some were only beginning to become revascularized, others were already active glands—"neothyroid glands." In one series of experiments cultures of streptococci from various sources were injected into and around the grafts. All became more or less inflamed; three suppurated; but on microscopic examination some months later, active thyroid tissue was found in all but one case, and it was a graft only some nine days old when the experiment was made. A second series of experiments was carried out with staphylococcus, coli bacillus, and bacillus pyocyaneus. After recovering from the more or less severe inflammation set up by the injections, active gland tissue was found in five out of seven cases; and in the two in which the gland tissue was destroyed by the inflammation the grafts were very young (three and seven days). Again, other "neothyroids" were burned with the thermo-cautery, others injected with irritant liquids, with results similar to the foregoing.

These experiments therefore prove that thyroid grafts transplanted according to Cristiani's method grow to form glands which are stable and active, and are also capable of resisting and recovering from serious inflammatory lesions.

Arthur J. Hutchison.

**Wilson, R. A.**—*Lodgment of a Foreign Body in the Air-Passages for Seventy-two Days.* "Lancet," November 22, 1902.

The patient was a man aged forty-five, who was thrown from a cart while intoxicated. He imagined that he had broken his ribs. No bony crepitus could be elicited. His temperature was 100°, his pulse 84, and his respirations were 24 per minute. There was dulness, and increase of vocal fremitus on the right infrascapular region. He remained in bed a week, and then returned to work. While suffering from one of his attacks of dyspnoea and cough, he expectorated the proximal portion of a vulcanite pipe-stem half an inch long, which he recognised as belonging to the pipe he was smoking at the time of the accident. A few days later all subjective symptoms and physical signs had disappeared.

StClair Thomson.

## EAR.

**Brunard and Labarre, E.**—*A Case of Typhoid Fever complicated by Mastoiditis and Cerebral Abscess; Two Operations; Death: Autopsy.* "La Presse Oto-Laryngologique Belge," March, 1902.

A girl, aged seven, passed through a severe attack of enteric fever. In the fourth week, when defervescence was complete, a succession of abscesses containing staphylococci began to form in the scalp. A fort-