"Bülbring and Wajda have modified this test. . . . The results of examining three concentrations of cocaine by this method [show that] . . . when the concentration of 0.05% was used, the mean time for anaesthesia to 0.2 N HCl was 20.25 minutes; when the concentration was 0.1%, the mean time was 9.7 minutes; finally, when the concentration was 0.2%, the mean time was 4.5 minutes. A comparison of the results in different frogs treated with the same concentration shows that there is much variation among the frogs. . . . When the figures for the mean time are plotted as ordinates against the logarithms of the concentrations used, a linear relation was again observed. . . . Once again the lines for nupercaine, β-uecaine and procaine were more nearly parallel to one another than they were to the line for cocaine; it is difficult to account for the difference in slope in this test by the vasoconstrictor action of cocaine; a vasoconstrictor effect could scarcely come into play. To what the difference is due is not known. . . . Since the slope of line relating log concentration to effect of cocaine differs from that of the other substances it would probably be better to use procaine hydrochloride as a standard of comparison." 5 references.

J. C. M. C.


"Dr. D. G. Perrett, of Newcastle, first called my attention to the fact that the Boyle Davis gag can be utilized for local anaesthesia. . . . Any local anaesthetic suitable for application to a mucosal surface may be used as a spray. It is applied from a spray having a swivel nozzle, with the patient sitting up. . . . The patient is placed in the recumbent position. . . . I use 15 to 20 millilitres of a 0.5% solution of 'Novocain,' 10 minims to the ounce of a 1 in 1,000 solution of adrenaline hydrochloride being added. . . . I do not propose to discuss the relative merits of local and general anaesthesia for tonsillectomy. I shall say only this: ten years ago I had removed only a few tonsils under local anaesthesia, but now I try to persuade all adult patients to submit to this procedure."

J. C. M. C.


"I have set out to make a preliminary investigation of curare in respect of its use for anaesthetic purposes, for conditions of the nervous system where there is spasticity and for involuntary movements. . . . In the cases in which I have used curare to obtain relaxation I have relied entirely on this drug for the relaxation and have only employed gas and oxygen to render the patient analgesic with no volatile anaesthetic as an adjuvant. . . .""After my short improved experience of curare I am sure that with more experience and technique in order to prolong the effects of the drug in spastic cases there is a very important advance in therapeutics."

J. C. M. C.


"At the present time there are two preparations of purified curare on the market and unfortunately they differ in potency. 'Intocostrin' is put up in bottles of 5 cm. and 10 cm. and consists of a sterile solution of 20 mg. of 'curare extract' per cm. with 0.5%