irregular for some minutes after he had walked up and down a flight of eleven stairs. Inhalation of oxygen markedly lessened the irregularity. Double the climb, in fact, did not have the effect of a single climb without oxygen. In mitral stenosis we have a condition of oxygen want very like that which occurs at high altitudes.

OBSERVATIONS ON A YOUNG MAN WITH MITRAL STENOSIS.
Summary of Experiments, September 27th, 1909.

Tracing.	Irregularity Lasted.
1. After lying quietly in bed, then going up and down eleven stairs	84 secs.
2. After lying quietly in bed, then going up and down eleven stairs	72 "
3. Oxygen given for 9 minutes, and continued after going up and down eleven stairs ...	30 "
4. Oxygen given, but stopped after going up and down eleven stairs	72 "
5. No oxygen given for 10 minutes before going up and down eleven stairs	60 "
6. No oxygen given for 12 minutes before going up and down eleven stairs	75 "
7. No oxygen given for 15 minutes before going up and down eleven stairs	110 "
8. Oxygen given for 5 minutes, and continued after going up and down eleven stairs ...	40 "
9. Oxygen given for 10 minutes, and continued after going up two flights of stairs ...	90 "
10. Oxygen given before and continued after going up one flight of stairs	25 "

Summary of Experiments, September 30th, 1909.

Tracing.	Irregularity Lasted.
11. After lying in bed, first effort upstairs ...	42 secs.
12. After lying in bed, second effort upstairs ...	54 "
13. After lying in bed, third effort upstairs ...	90 "
14. After oxygen, first effort upstairs	40 "
15. After oxygen, second effort upstairs	48 "
16. After oxygen, third effort upstairs	48 "
17. After oxygen, fourth effort upstairs	42 "
18. After oxygen, fifth effort upstairs	40 "
19. Mask closed, and expired air breathed. Marked irregularity in a few seconds. The mask opened, and irregularity disappeared.	
20. Upstairs immediately after this	63 "

Mr. Calthrop found the apparatus very portable and durable. It weighs about 2 lb. It travelled on a pack mule most of the time, and suffered plenty of hard usage and exposure to great changes of temperature.

The apparatus returned looking in as good order as it went out. The 1-lb. cases of oxylithe packed nicely and kept tight and in good state.

It seems, then, after this searching test that the apparatus is one which may afford considerable relief to those who have to face high altitudes.

It is obvious that the apparatus can be used also for a short exploration of a poisonous atmosphere. For this purpose a mouthpiece is supplied which is strapped to the head so as to leave the hands free, and the middle of the bag can be strapped to the body. If a second apparatus were carried, and a tin of oxylithe, and this were charged when the other was almost expended, the wearer could stay a long period in a poisonous atmosphere, in fact until he used up his supply of oxylithe. The second apparatus can be carried with the water in the bag, and the oxylithe in the generator, a screw-clip closing the pipe between the two. To recharge the first apparatus the generator must be elevated and the water returned to the bag before the new charge is put in.

The apparatus is made by Messrs. Siebe, Gorman and Co., 187, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.

A CURIOUS instance of the apparently incorrigible readiness of the public to make experiments on themselves with anything which professes to be a secret remedy is afforded by the recent tragedy in Vienna. Somebody sent to eleven out of twenty-five officers recently appointed to the general staff some pink capsules; these have been proved to contain a large quantity of potassium cyanide, and one officer who swallowed a capsule died within a few minutes.

A CASE OF FRACTURE OF THE RADIUS TREATED BY EARLY MASSAGE AND MOVEMENT.

By J. P. HASTINGS, M.B., M.R.C.S.,
DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND.

I THINK that in fractures such as this the splints may safely be removed much earlier than is customary. The ulna acts as a natural splint. Previous to the performance of the passive or active movements, the limb was always gently massaged. The result was convincing.

Mr. M., aged 18, student, fell upon his right arm whilst playing football. The radius was broken, as shown in the accompanying radiograph. Examination with the fluorescent screen showed that the displacement of the bones was lateral. There was no antero-posterior deformity. The patient was put under ether, and the deformity corrected as far as possible. The limb was then put up in Gooche splints. The anterior splint extended from the bend of the elbow to the palmar flexure, the posterior from the elbow to the level of the metacarpophalangeal articulation. On the day following the frac-

ture the posterior splint was removed, and the limb gently rubbed. This was done for five or ten minutes daily for the first six days. From the very first the fingers were left free, and the patient told to exercise them. On the sixth day passive movements were begun; the posterior splint having been removed, the wrist and elbow were exercised for three to four minutes. To do this I steadied the seat of fracture with one hand, whilst with the other I moved the joints indicated. The movements were those of flexion and extension. On the eighth day I removed both splints, steadied the seat of fracture with one hand, and moved the joints as before. On the tenth day the patient was allowed to make active movements of the wrist and elbow, the seat of fracture being steadied with one hand. From the fourteenth day onwards he was allowed to make these active movements for five minutes daily without having the seat of fracture controlled in any way. On the twentieth day the splints were removed altogether. The arm was taken out of the sling on the twenty-fourth day. He now has a limb which presents no obvious signs of having been fractured; there is no deformity; at no time was there any obvious wasting of muscles. The movement at the wrist was perfect as early as the twentieth day. On the twenty-fourth day there was only a little stiffness in the right elbow-joint. He was able to write with the right hand before the twentieth day. I believe I could have dispensed with the splints on the fourteenth day, as even as early as that date the limb really required no further restraining apparatus.