

defecated. Most foreign bodies which had managed to pass through the phrenic constriction of the gullet might be relied on to pass safely through the entire length of the gut in time, and in view of what happened in this case he would in future adopt an expectant attitude, even in the case of a large open safety-pin in a small child, if it passed into the gullet. The case of an ordinary pin or a needle in the stomach was quite another matter, however, and Dr. Davis was lucky in that he had been relieved of the difficulty of facing this problem by an opportune attack of vomiting so successfully coming to his aid.

Mr. TILLEY desired to mention the ease with which a bronchoscope could be passed over a foreign body so that it might be missed altogether. In the collapsed state of the œsophagus it was easy for a pin to lie in a fold. That occurred in a case of his in which a safety-pin fell from a mother's blouse into a child's mouth, was swallowed, and lodged in the gullet with the point upwards. In drawing out the œsophagoscope he caught hold of the curved portion of the open safety-pin, and managed to swing it round in the œsophagus and to extract it.

Dr. DAVIS replied that he seized the pin with straight forceps, but he could not have extracted it without breaking it. The pin was eventually vomited up. After passing such instruments there was always some abrasion of the surfaces, and he gave formalin 1 in 1,000, with glycerine, in doses of one teaspoonful every hour. That, swallowed slowly, assisted healing, and relieved the immediate inconvenience following the operation. The pin, as could be seen, was considerably bent.

Fracture of Hyoid Bone in a Man aged 56 ("Garrotter's Throat").

By H. J. DAVIS, M.B.

THE patient came to the hospital complaining of a sore throat, "as the front wheel of a van had passed across his neck a week ago." Laryngeal and faucial examination showed nothing; no swelling and no lesion. On grasping the neck or swallowing he complained of great pain. The skiagrams, exhibited, showed quite plainly a fracture of the body of the hyoid bone.