

## Enuresis

SIR,—I am encouraged by what you say in *Research Newsletter* No. 7 to send the following note.

Since 1947 I have treated all cases of nocturnal enuresis with Bellergal (Sandoz). This preparation contains in each tablet 0.1mgm. Bellafoline, 0.3mgm. ergotamine tartrate B.P. and 20mgm. phenobarbitone B.P.

My first case was a boy of 14, who had had every sort of treatment and who was permanently cured after three months' treatment. I have used this preparation in about 15 cases with two failures. It has been either completely successful or has given no benefit at all.

The typical story is that the child has become dry at about the usual age and then after a period, which may be two or three years, has started bed-wetting. A careful history may reveal some psychological stress. The child should be examined and it is of course essential to examine the urine. If no physical abnormality is revealed it is then my practice to prescribe Bellergal. The dose is one or two tablets at bed-time irrespective of age.

A small amount is given at first and if this is successful, three months' supply is prescribed. The mother usually returns to report that the child was dry while taking the tablets and for some weeks afterwards, but has now relapsed. She is then advised to continue the treatment for a further period. After this there is a good chance that the child will remain dry, but if there is a further relapse the treatment can be continued as long as is necessary.

It seems that this treatment deserves a wider trial than can be given by one single-handed practitioner. When one of these cases was brought to me I used to experience a sinking feeling, knowing that I would see the child again and again with little improvement. Now, I can adopt a confident attitude from the start.

Edinburgh.

D. S. COWNIE.

## Warts

SIR,—Dr. Burdon asks for experiences of dandelion and warts.

There is a great deal of evidence, I understand, that warts can be charmed away. I have myself successfully charmed warts away using various methods including simply touching them and telling the patient it will go. One of my favourite methods is to tell them to apply dandelion juice but only once. I believe dandelions have a popular magical significance and therefore add to the suggestive effect.

I find charming warts often fails but is worth trying.

Risca.

M. T. WADE.