

soon as the diagnosis was established the whole forces of resistance at the disposal of the municipality of a great city, organized by one of the best public health departments which we possess, were at once brought into action. The procedure adopted—prompt hospital isolation, medical house-to-house visitation, formation of “cleansing areas,” search (with the aid of bacteriology) for cases bearing suspicious similarity to plague, observation of “contacts,” along with other administrative measures—soon had a marked effect, and the outbreak was speedily brought under control. A more extensive outbreak of the disease occurred in Sydney, Australia. The first case appeared on January 27th, and up to July 28th there had been 302 cases and 102 deaths. During the whole of July, however, only six cases were reported, and for the week ending July 28th no fresh cases were notified, although one of the patients in the hospital died. The occurrence of the above outbreaks lent additional interest to the Harben Lectures delivered at the Royal Institute of Public Health by Professor A. Calmette, Director of the Pasteur Institute at Lille. In the course of these instructive lectures Professor Calmette remarked that it was now impossible to deny that the use of anti-plague serum as a preventive measure had been proved to be an excellent means of preventing propagation of plague in an affected centre, as by its means persons exposed to the contagion would be rendered absolutely and immediately immune. Unfortunately the immunity thus obtained was of short duration, and it was therefore necessary during an epidemic to repeat the injection every week. The differences in the results thus obtained by Professor Calmette and those produced by Mr. Haffkine’s method are remarkable. Professor Calmette, indeed, alluded to the latter, but remarked that “this method was, however, open to some objection.”

*Anti-typhoid Inoculations.*—The success of anti-typhoid inoculations is unfortunately by no means insured, and we must await the official returns from South Africa before arriving at any conclusion on the subject. In the early part of the year Professor A. E. Wright, of the Army Medical School, Netley, published a paper on the results which have been obtained by the anti-typhoid inoculations. His statistics, however, did not include a large number of cases, and although the results might be characterized as encouraging, yet a far larger number of cases will have to be analyzed before any decision is arrived at. The experience of our troops in South Africa has been the severest possible test of the value of the inoculations, and the opinions of the medical officers who have had only too many opportunities of observing how far the inoculations protect men from attacks of typhoid fever, are universally awaited with the greatest interest and anxiety.

*Epidemic Diarrhea.*—The subject of epidemic diarrhea has been brought prominently before the medical profession during