

first to give way, then the thermogenetic, and lastly the thermolytic. Conversely, when a patient gets well, first the action of the thermolytic mechanism is restored, then that of the thermogenetic, and lastly that of the thermotaxic. A highly interesting, and in the treatment of fever, a most useful, study.

THE use of the thermometer as a means of diagnosing will now, or should, become less a "routine practice." As the *Journal (Brit. Med.)* says: We have been carried away too much by its application, and are frequently apt to be blind to the fact that its use is perhaps more empirical than any other means of diagnosis; for it does not tell us whether the increased temperature is due to an increased production of heat, a diminished loss, or to both these causes.

DR. Alfred Carpenter, one of the best of authorities, delivered an address at the last monthly meeting of the "Association of Public Sanitary Inspectors," on disinfection. He concluded by saying that the lines on which disinfection should be carried out were: Ventilation, aerial disinfection by chlorine or steam, lime washing, washing floors and furniture with solutions of mercuric chloride; steam heat for clothing, furniture, etc.; and sulphate of iron or chloride of lime in adequate quantities for flushing. If these means were effectively applied infectious diseases would be completely vanished from our midst, and any local authority which now allowed of their continuance was doing defective work.

OFTEN have we thought that some means could be readily devised whereby one could breathe pure outdoor or cooler air while in a warm room. An apparatus is advertised in Europe, says the *N. Y. Medical Times*, by which a person is enabled to breathe the air from without while sitting in-doors. It consists of a tube communicating through the window with the external air, with an attachment to fit over the mouth and nose. The inventor claims that, as tubercle bacilli are destroyed by a low temperature, pulmonary phthisis may be cured by breathing frosty air through this apparatus.

Nor the slightest hardship, but an unmixed benefit, the *Sanitary Era* claims, would be imposed on the poorest house-

holder by absolutely prohibiting the deposit of excreta or offal in any place without an immediate covering of dry soil. Every garden and door-yard contains the perfect remedy for all the evil and loathsomeness of the pestilential deposits existing everywhere in civilised countries, and which would also "pay" for the little labor required in the use of the remedy.

SOME extraordinary and instantaneous cures by hypnotism with suggestion are reported. The therapeutic suggestions, being made during the "sleep", or hypnotic state, were certain in their effects. The cases were not merely functional disturbances, but disorders depending upon anatomical lesions.

It is confidently predicted, says the *Sanitary Era*, that in five years the magnesium light will be as familiar as now is the electric light. The high cost has heretofore been a serious obstacle, which is said to be now removed by a new German process that has reduced the price from \$30 to \$8 a pound, with a prospect of still further cheapening. A wire of moderate size equals the light of seventy-five stearine candles; the cost is now but little more than gas, and it is absolutely safe. The magnesium is simply burned in lamps provided with clock-work movement.

IN the fifteenth annual report of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board, England, reference is made to the cases of supposed scarletina in cows, from which it was thought the disease was communicated to the human organism, and to which we have referred on several occasions. Pathological changes are found in the bodies of calves—in the skin, lungs, pleura, spleen and kidneys, "completely coinciding" with the effects of the disease in man. And Dr. Klein has found in the blood of ordinary human scarletina a micro-organism identical in its morphological characters with that found in the ulcers on the teats in the cow-disease. The disease on the whole in the cow "bears a striking likeness" to human scarlatina.

WITH corrosive sublimate as a disinfectant or gemicide, Dr. Kliens experiments in the main agree with those of Dr. Koch, that the power of this substance to restrain the growth of, and in stronger solutions to kill,