

all. The Alpine heights changed all this in a few days, and at present I can put the weight, throw the hammer, or walk thirty miles with any man I know, not excepting his age or size. As there could be no question about the activity of phthisis in my lung last year, I believe there can be little doubt of its arrest now.

I had the opportunity of watching cases in Switzerland in every stage of the disease. I have had the same advantage in England to a greater degree. I never felt justified in giving a favorable prognosis in cases of phthisis sent to health resorts at home. Whatever may be said at societies, or written in books, the grim fact remains that, when the practitioner discovers phthisis, he is conscious of his utter inability to cope with it in this climate. I know a great many able men in large practice, and this is how they feel in the matter. There may be others, I admit, who really believe in the efficacy of respirators and general tinkering, but I do not know them. The English health resorts are the forlorn hope of phthisis, and so-called respiratory therapeutics—so far as they concern tubercular phthisis—constitute one method of advertising. I am aware of wonderful cases that are cited in even standard books to prove startling things, but I prefer to trust the evidence before my own eyes, and to do so I must reject authority in opinion. I believe it is wise to send an advanced case of phthisis to one of the English resorts, if only for the comfort thus afforded; but I hold it to be a cruel proceeding to do so in the early stage of the disease, and when little lung tissue is involved.

Many advanced cases of phthisis are to be seen at Davos which should not be sent there. They injure the good repute of the place and benefit nobody. If phthisis were diagnosed early, when there is slight consolidation, and Davos resorted to at once, there should then be no room for contention. Anyone can diagnose phthisis when there is a large cavity, etc., but it is useless to discover the disease then. A practitioner in search of useful knowledge ought to go to Davos in winter, where he will find a lamentable testimony of our ignorance. He will be wearied by people describing how they were under

their doctor at home many months before he discovered that they were suffering from phthisis, and then only when his attention was arrested by a hæmorrhage, or something prominent enough to make the case clear to an old woman. Cases with a large cavity in either lung are common enough at Davos. I have often wondered why medical men send these cases there to die. It is excusable to say that we cannot cure phthisis; but I am not sure that it is equally so to have to admit our inability to recognize the disease before a huge excavation exists in the lung. There has been a great deal of bacilli-hunting in our schools, and volumes of nonsense written about the pathology and cure of phthisis in recent years. Is it not as necessary to be able to tell when a patient has phthisis? We are all acquainted with the elaborate and learned controversy as to the pathology of the small pox vesicle, but all the eminent contenders have not equalled Jenner in controlling the ravages of small-pox. It is not necessary to be always dodging bacilli with a microscope in order to say when phthisis exists. Our own senses and a stethoscope are surely adequate, and especially for the general practitioner, who sees the disease in its early stage, and has in consequence the most valuable opportunities for becoming expert in diagnosis. This field of study is evidently neglected, and post-graduate lectures point to a time when the general practitioner will have to submit to a State examination from time to time in order to show his competence to practise. Dr. G. H. Sutton pertinently writes: "Phthisis is said to be due to a bacillus, but of what use is that view in curing phthisis? Do not be contented to love knowledge for the sake of knowledge, but for what you can do with it. The 'view' is inadequate to cure phthisis, and on this account we must look on phthisis as made up of many physiological disturbances, and it can only be cured by bringing these disordered physiological changes into order again; and here hope in the cure of phthisis can be entertained." This is, at least, common sense, and will conform with experience at Davos. "The constitutional state," says Dr. Quain, "is th