

peared, but were again observed occasionally until expectoration completely ceased. Simultaneously the night-sweats ceased, the patients' appearance improved, and they increased in weight within from four to six weeks.

Patients under treatment for the first stage of phthisis were free from every symptom of disease and might be pronounced cured; patients with cavities not yet too highly developed, improved considerably, and were almost cured, and only in those whose lungs contained many large cavities, could no improvement be proved. Objectively, even in these cases the expectoration decreased and the subjective condition improved. These experiences lead me to suppose that phthisis in the beginning can be cured with certainty by this remedy. This statement requires limitation in so far as at present no conclusive experience can possibly be brought forward to prove whether the cure is lasting.

Relapses naturally may occur, but it can be assumed that they may be cured as easily and quickly as the first attack. On the other hand, it seems possible that, as in other infectious diseases, patients once cured may retain their immunity; but this, too, for the present, must remain an open question. In part, this may be assumed for other cases, when not too far advanced; but patients with large cavities, who suffer from complications caused, for instance, by the incursion of other pus-forming microorganisms into the cavities, or by incurable pathological changes in other organs, will probably obtain lasting benefit from the remedy in only in exceptional cases. Even such patients, however, were benefitted for a time. This seems to prove that in their cases, too, the original tuberculous disease is influenced by the remedy in the same manner as in the other cases, but that we are unable to remove the necrotic masses of tissue with the secondary suppurative process.

The thought involuntarily suggests itself that relief might possibly be brought to many of these severely afflicted patients by a combination of this new therapeutic method with surgical operations (such as the operation for empyema), or with other curative methods, and here I would earnestly warn people against conventional and indiscriminate application of the remedy in all cases of tuberculosis. The treatment will probably be quite simple in cases in which the beginning of phthisis and simple surgical cases are concerned, but in all other forms of tuberculosis medical art must have full sway by careful individualization and making use of all other auxiliary methods to assist the action of the remedy.

In many cases the decided impression was created that the careful nursing bestowed on the patient had a considerable influence on the result of the treatment, and I am in favor of applying

the remedy in proper sanatoria as opposed to treatment at home and in the out-patient room. How far the methods of treatment already recognized as curative, such as mountain climate, fresh-air treatment, special diet, etc., may be profitably combined with the new treatment, cannot yet be definitely stated, but I believe that these therapeutic methods will also be highly advantageous when combined with the new treatment. In many cases, especially in the convalescent stage, as regards tuberculosis of the brain and larynx, and milary tuberculosis, we had too little material at our disposal to gain proper experience.

The most important point to be observed in the new treatment is its early application. The proper subjects for treatment are patients in the initial stage of phthisis, for in them the curative action can be most fully shown, and for this reason, too, it cannot be too seriously pointed out that practitioners must in the future be more than ever alive to the importance of diagnosing phthisis in as early a stage as possible. Up to the present time the proof of tubercle bacilli in the sputum was considered more as an interesting point of secondary importance, which, though it made diagnosis more certain, could not help the patient in any way, and which, in consequence, was often neglected.

This I have lately repeatedly had occasion to observe in numerous cases of phthisis, which had generally gone through the hands of several doctors without any examination of the sputum having been made. In the future this must be changed. A doctor who shall neglect to diagnose phthisis in its earliest stage by all methods at his command, especially by examining the sputum, will be guilty of the most serious neglect of his patient, whose life may depend upon the early application of the specific treatment. In consequence, in doubtful cases, medical practitioners must make sure of the presence or absence of tuberculosis, and then only will the new therapeutic method become a blessing to suffering humanity, when all cases of tuberculosis are treated in their earliest stage, and we no longer meet with neglected serious cases forming an inextinguishable source of fresh infections. Finally, I would remark, that I have purposely omitted statistical accounts and descriptions of individual cases, because the medical men who furnished us with patients for our investigations have themselves decided to publish the description of their cases, and I wished my account to be as objective as possible, leaving to them all that is purely personal.—*Med. News*, Nov. 15th, 1890.

The death is announced of Prof. Von. Nussbaum, the eminent surgeon of Munich.