

and the avoidance of excesses should be enjoined. A good action of the excretory organs favored the elimination of the toxines.

Mercury, Dr. Robinson went on to say, had an inhibitory action on the life of the microbes. It, perhaps, killed many of them, as shown by the experiment he had described. It was not possible, judging from clinical experience, to kill all the organisms in the body; they were scattered through the whole system. But their action could be inhibited, their toxines lessened. It was possible to postpone, or entirely prevent, the formation of lesions. If the secondary lesions were entirely prevented during the secondary stage, treatment after this was unnecessary. The stage is present, although one may see no cutaneous lesions. The doctor stigmatized that plan where the patient went under active treatment for thirty days, and was allowed to go untreated until symptoms reappeared and was then treated again. This was not correct, because, as he had shown, a reappearance of the signs meant serious tissue injury. In this sort of treatment one was simply repelling attacks, not carrying on offensive warfare against the organisms. Such treatment would materially increase the danger of tertiary lesions. The rule was, the less secondaries the less tertiaries. Anti-syphilitic treatment after the contagious stage aimed at the prevention of gummatous formation. For this, mercury combined with the iodides was the treatment.

Gummata, the essayist thought, should not be regarded as syphilitic lesions, syphilis was just a predisposing factor. Energetic and continued treatment was called for in treating these tertiary lesions. Mercury might be given for a certain length of time, but it would lose its action. It was wise to change to the iodide. The iodide aided the mercury in its action. One must be careful how he administers the iodide at this juncture, because it might loosen up too much mercury in the system.

The speaker then drew attention to irritation lesions of the tertiary stage; these might be seen on the tongue and lips of those who used alcohol. Another example was the occurrence of parasitic lesions on the skin. Such were the result of the dyscrasia, not of the syphilitic poison. And they were not cured by antisyphilitic treatment. Their removal was aided by giving that which would bring about a normal condition of the system. Such remedies as the iodide, which aided in restoring a proper action of the glands, would aid in the removal of such lesions. Locomotor ataxia and similar lesions come under this category.

Referring to the value of Hot Springs, the doctor said their value lay in keeping the system in a good condition. The system underwent