properly used, to reduce the death rate from this terrible malady about 50 per cent.

When you are impressed by the brilliant victories of modern surgery and behold with awe the ruthless but successful invasion of the vital organs and cavities, remember that all this was made possible only through the guidance afforded by laboratory investigations upon wound infections and the means of preventing them. When you are told that typhoid fever can be practically eliminated from a community by the adoption of appropriate measures for water purification, remember that the development of such methods was directly dependent upon laboratory aid.

In our understanding of the factors responsible for the existence and spread of the so-called miasmatic diseases, and the development of means for their elimination, the achievements have been no less remarkable. One of the most dreadful scourges of tropical and sub-tropical America is yellow fever; a malady costing many lives and much treasure annually; a continuous menace to the operations of commerce, and a foe whose invasion is so subtle and mysterious that the people living within the zones of its epidemicity are in a constant state of disturbing apprehension; yet the ingenious researches of Reed and his associates have robbed this disease of practically all its terrors.

It is true that this cannot strictly be regarded as a laboratory investigation, but it is a significant fact that both Reed and his fellows were special laboratory workers, and I do not believe the result would ever have been accomplished had they been without a firm foundation in the scientific methods of approaching their problem.

The outcome of this work was the conversion of Havana, Cuba, formerely a hot-bed of yellow fever, with thousands of cases and hundreds of deaths annually, into a city from which the disease is practically absent. Nor is this all. By demonstrating that the disseminating medium of this disease is a familiar insect, the means of prevention are plain and easy of application. We see that the elaborate systems of maritime quarantine against a mysterious foe, established and maintained at a cost of millions annually, are in very large part unnecessary.

This work on yellow fever, with the analogous studies on malarial fever, and a group of other parasitic infections transmitted by insects, aside from their intrinsic importance, suggest the desirability of our keeping before us the possible role of insects in the transmission of other diseases on which our knowledge is at present but scant. Far be it from me to suggest that another subject be added to the already overcrowded curricula of our schools, but I take this occasion to hint