

fire at 2 a.m., would he get up and put it out with his tears? Yet this is on a par with his senseless criticism. Such criticism, however, would almost go to show that specialists should have it stated on their signs what particular practices they are confining their work to.

Koch still insists that bovine tuberculosis differs from human tuberculosis, as first expounded by him in London, in 1901. With his adherents he stands in the minority. Although a heart-to-heart discussion was held *in camera* at the recent Washington Tuberculosis Conference, it failed to produce any unanimous agreement on the subject. The majority—and many eminent scientists are included in this—hold that tuberculosis in cattle constitutes a most serious menace to public health. It is a matter of the most vital importance, and Professor Koch and other scientists will have to go deeper into their researches and observations, in order to satisfy both the medical and lay mind.

The Local Use of Epsom Salt is a new and interesting, as it appears to be a successful, topical treatment in up-to-date therapeutics. It is being extensively used in hospitals in the United States in acute and sub-acute inflammations of the skin, and in erysipelas. The technique is extracted from *The Medical Council*. The application consists of a saturated solution of mag. sulph. in water. This is applied in facial cases on a mask consisting of from fifteen to twenty thicknesses of ordinary gauze, of sufficient size to extend well beyond the area involved, a small opening being made to permit breathing; no opening, however, is cut for the eyes. The mask is then thoroughly saturated with the solution, applied and covered with oiled silk or wax paper, and wet as often as necessary to assure a moist dressing—usually once in two hours, depending on the time of year, or the temperature of the room. The dressing should not be removed oftener than once in twelve hours to permit an inspection of the parts, and then immediately re-applied; the infected area should not be washed while the treatment is employed. The temperature rapidly falls and usually becomes normal during the second twenty-four hours. The only other treatment needful, in the average case, is a milk diet until the temperature is again normal.

It is said that the chief of one of Philadelphia's largest outpatient departments has given instructions to his workers to employ magnesium sulphate in all cases of ivy poisoning, erysipelas and, in fact, in inflammations generally of the skin,