

one which is by no means infrequently encountered is the gastric secretory neurosis known as hyperchlorhydria which may be treated for months by the stomach specialist, when physical signs of apical infiltration, particularly of the right side, are marked. The slight or moderate symptoms are assumed to be gastric origin, leading to a conclusion based solely upon chemical analysis of the stomach contents. This clinical fact, well known for many years to British practitioners, has apparently not attracted the attention which it deserves of the physicians of America. Referred symptoms, often misnamed reflex, are by no means uncommon, and must be traced to their place of origin.

There is probably no disease which offers such opportunity for the regular or irregular charlatan, the former known as a faddist, as this does, probably from its chronicity, variations in course of development and partly, doubtless, from the usual mental attitude of the patient. There is probably no therapeutic method or means, but that, at some time in the history of medicine, it has been presented as beneficial in the treatment or cure of tuberculosis. One meets every degree of therapeutic nihilism even to optimism in medical literature. If the despair of the dead-house is carried into the sick room, a gloomy prognosis is the rule, not realizing that the wreck and devastation of pulmonary tuberculosis as found at the necropsies of paupers is the end-all of physical degradation. Success in the treatment of tuberculosis demands that the physician shall have confidence in himself, that his knowledge is broad, that his therapeutic resources are many, that his judgment in selection and adaption of these methods and means is sound, that he realizes that often it is of more moment what sort of a man has acquired a disease, than what disease has infected a particular organism, and above all that he shall inspire the patient with confidence to the end that intelligent co-operation shall be secured and implicit obedience to instructions be obtained.

It is the therapeutic nihilist who impedes progress, not by his sins of omission, for his limit of usefulness is speedily determined by the patient who readily assumes that the nihilist is an ignoramus and fails to see the advantage of an idle spectator, no matter how great his scientific reputation may be. But the nihilist impedes progress by his captious criticisms of methods which do not appeal to his limited understanding and information and by the loud assertions based upon his own failures and the end result is a phthisiophobia alike unreasonable and disheartening. Fear has been without doubt a great promoter of human progress, but when it becomes hysterical it does not stimulate to advance, but paralyzes all wholesome endeavor. When the phthisiotherapist goes before lay audiences and assures them that tuberculosis is incurable and that the only possibility of escaping infection is the adoption of some of his fads, or generally one of them, and the same individual before a professional