

of therapy and prophylaxis directly derivable from a consideration of the teachings of pathogenesis. As pathological processes are traced farther and farther back to the earliest stages when function begins its deviation from the normal, and the causes underlying those deviations gradually become recognizable, the means of prevention and the indications for treatment become obvious.

Bacteriology appears to have done for us the greatest work of which it is directly capable; further advances in a similar direction promise to be made rather through the aid of chemistry and physics. The study of protozoan invasions is yet in its infancy and may have surprises in store for us. One cannot help but feel that we are on the brink of the discovery of the infectious agent in syphilis and the infectious fevers, but who can prophecy what the nature of the agent will be—animal, vegetable or less highly organized “ferment”?

We have some reason to be proud of our present status with regard to public hygiene. There never was a time when the general public was more industriously educated concerning the importance of hygienic measures than at present, never a time when the laity was more thoroughly exercised over this topic. Sanitary associations are innumerable; public health departments are everywhere demanded. Meat, milk and vegetables are inspected; impurities in food and drink are more and more excluded through the vigilance of the law. Contagious diseases are diagnosed early, and isolated by city officials. Governmental sanatoria are in sight. Quarantine and disinfectant measures are more rigidly, and fortunately more intelligently, employed than ever before. Great epidemics are being choked at their starting places, the only mode in which they can be satisfactorily combatted. A fire can be extinguished by a fire department in its incipient stage—once well under way it is beyond the control of human interference. There is good prospect that ere long the world will be through with those tremendous outbreaks of contagious disease of bacterial origin which from time to time have so devastatingly swept over both western and eastern civilizations. Thanks largely to Anglo-Saxon enterprise the back yards of the world in which the embers of epidemics smoulder are being cleaned up; this, together with the rendering ever more infection-proof of the materials to which the flames of infection spread bids fair to make the whole subject, if not entirely, at least largely, a matter of history.

The present position of personal hygiene is a subject upon which we have less reason to congratulate ourselves. In principle we know much, in practice we do but little. Concerning climate, fresh air, diet, clothing, bathing, work, rest and recre-