

impression in India that the municipality of Calcutta voted unanimously to devote a sum of money to thoroughly test the system for two years.

Smallpox and cholera are the only two diseases which have so far been proceeded against systematically by vaccination. The use of "lymphs," "antitoxins," and "defensive proteids" in other diseases partakes more of the nature of curative than of preventive measures, but the results which have been obtained are scarcely less encouraging. Pasteur has been able to reduce the mortality in rabies from 80-90 per cent. to less than 1 per cent.

In the Children's Hospital, in Paris, the mortality from diphtheria has been reduced from 50 per cent. to 26 per cent. by Roux's antitoxin system. Tizzoni and Cattani have had gratifying results in a number of cases of tetanus. Among the lower animals it appears that experimenters can, with the greatest ease, produce immunization against almost any disease. Millions of sheep in various parts of the world are absolutely protected from anthrax by inoculation. Mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits, cows, horses, and other animals, have been immunized from septicæmia, cholera, tetanus, glanders, anthrax, and diphtheria, and it is surely only a question of time when these desirable exemptions may be extended to man.

But while we are encouraged to hope that, in the near future, we may learn to prevent many diseases and to cure others, there still remains a vast number of diseases upon the prevention of which we have as yet had little light thrown. The whole class of tumors, malignant and non-malignant; the congenital deformities, such as club-foot, harelip, and monsters of all kinds, are generally agreed to have a cause which exerts its malevolent influence before birth, and of the nature and prevention of which we are practically in total ignorance.

We also have to lament our impotence in the prevention and cure of the slow and insidious inflammatory diseases, such as locomotor ataxia and other scleroses of the nervous system, atheroma, rheumatoid arthritis, Bright's disease in its chronic form, cirrhosis of the liver, etc.

THE NEUROSES AND INSANITIES.

Preventive medicine finds ample scope for the exercise of its mission in the field of the nervous and mental diseases. That pitiable class of our fellow-men who are the subjects of disturbed mental equilibrium seems to be doomed to perpetual despair, so far as benefit from treatment is concerned. The figures of Tuke and Bucknill, Thurman and Pliny Earle, have shown that, "out of eleven persons who become insane, nine ultimately die insane, and, of the remaining two, but one entirely recovers." One of the saddest features of this subject is the fact that, so far from our being able to prevent insanity, that malady is distinctly on the