

SPECIAL ARTICLE

THE CONGRESS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE AT WIESBADEN, GERMANY, 1907.

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There are few more inspiring medical meetings than those for Internal Medicine which are attended annually by the leading physicians of Germany, and the congress which this year met at Wiesbaden was especially interesting, being the celebration of its 25th anniversary. It was before this assembly that Koch, about 22 years ago, notified the world of his epoch-making discovery as to the cause of tuberculosis; that Frerichs discussed his theories as to Diseases of the Liver; that Behring demonstrated his healing serum, and at subsequent meetings have been demonstrated many of the most important facts which have contributed so much to place Internal Medicine on the high scientific plane which it at present maintains.

Professor V. Leyden, now promoted to the title of "Excellency," the highest gift to a physician in the power of the German Empire opened the meeting with a retrospect of the work done by the members during the past 25 years, and concluded that from all the special work done and the great advances made the specialty of Internal Medicine had well earned its place as an independent sphere, justified as it was by the work done by pure physicians towards advancement in diagnosis and treatment and formulating principles based on the foundations of accurate physical examination of bacteriology, organic chemistry, microscopy, etc. The main discussion of the meeting at its opening session concerned the *treatment of neuralgia* for which Schlosser of Munich, strongly urged the direct injection into the nerve trunks or roots of small quantities of alcohol, and though his statistical results showed a remarkable series of cures, especially in severe cases of trigeminal neuralgia and sciatica, they were re-