

KAMLOOPS.

It is appropriate that at the first meeting of the British Columbia Medical Association held last month in Vancouver, the subject of the treatment of tuberculosis should have been selected as a main topic for discussion, and this not merely because this is a topic of such immediate interest, but because British Columbia possesses a belt of region which, from every aspect save distance from Eastern centres of population, gives indication for being better suited for the climatic treatment of the disease than any other in the whole American continent.

This may seem a bold statement, especially at the present time, when it is being pointed out from all sides that incipient cases of phthisis are capable of cure even at home, or at least on the outskirts of our large cities. Undoubtedly that is the case, cure can be so effected. Undoubtedly again, the more allied is the "Kurort" in altitude and geographical characters to the district from which the patient comes, the greater the likelihood that the patient in whom the disease has been arrested will be able to return home and engage in work without return of the phthisical symptoms. But undoubtedly, also, climate is a factor in the production of a rapid arrest or cure of the disease: statistics are conclusive that improvement is more rapid in a pure mountain air and in an equable temperature than on the plains and where the temperature and moisture are variable. With equal attention to nourishment and rest the patient makes a more sure and more rapid recovery in Colorado than in the Adirondacks, in the Adirondacks than on the sea coast.

But, Colorado has several disadvantages: the great altitude renders it dangerous to transport hæmorrhagic cases thither, save very gradually: the climate is so dry, the air so rarified, that if patients who there maintain the best of health and activity return to the more humid East, they are peculiarly liable to relapse: and thirdly, though those who vaunt the advantages of this region say little concerning this, the clouds of dust brought about by the nature of the soil and the prevalent dryness of the air are most irritating, and not beneficial to the sufferer from pulmonary trouble.

The Adirondacks possess the advantages of pure, ozone-laden air, of a moderate altitude, which permits a return to city life in the East, and of relative nearness to the centres of population. The same is true of Ste. Agathe and the Laurentians and the Muskoka district, though the proximity of the Great Lakes renders the atmosphere of the last resort somewhat more laden with moisture. But all these districts are relatively at a disadvantage because the climate at none of them can be called equable. The frequent great diurnal variations in temperature, the rains, winds and clouded skies which are liable to occur in November and December