

### What Doctors Die From

Even those enemies of death, the doctors, must die. How well do they resist the adversary? The Journal of the American Medical Association gives an interesting set of figures for the year past. Of 2,272 physicians dying in the United States and Canada during 1920, whose age was stated, 38 were 30, 174 between 31 and 40, 351 between 41 and 50, 463 between 51 and 60, 541 between 61 and 70, 436 between 71 and 80, 208 between 81 and 90 and 19 between 91 and 100. The greatest number of deaths for a given age occurred at 63 and 64 years, at each of which ages 65 deaths were noted.

Causes of death—General diseases accounted for 257 deaths; diseases of the nervous system, 271; diseases of the circulatory system 404; diseases of the respiratory system, 266; diseases of the digestive system, 70; diseases of the genito-urinary system, 154; senility, 77; suicide, 32; accidents, 102; homicide, 14, and sequels of surgical operations, 74. The principal assigned causes of death from disease and their frequency were: Organic heart disease, 236; cerebral hemorrhage, 214; pneumonia, 186; nephritis and uraemia 142; malignant tumors, 91; tuberculosis, 59; angina pectoris, 50; pneumonia influenza, 37; arteriosclerosis 33; myocarditis, 34; septicæmia, 31; influenza, 29; diabetes, 28; meningitis, 17; cirrhosis of the liver and acute dilation of the heart, each 16; endocarditis and anaemia each 15; peritonitis, 12, and appendicitis and gastritis each 11.

### Bullet Extracted From Lung Without Aid of a Lancet

Extraction of a bullet from a lung where it had become imbedded, through the breathing tubes and the throat, has been accomplished at Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia. Not only that, the feat is said to be the first occasion when a bullet fired into a lung has been removed without the aid of a lancet. Chronologically, the story started in Nanticoke, Luzerne county, when and where Stanley Butt, a 17-year-old mine worker, was accidentally shot in the back. Application of an X-ray showed the bullet imbedded in the lung, where the Manticoke and Wilkes-barre surgeons declared it would be almost certain death to apply a knife or lancet.

One of the surgeons mentioned the apparatus called the bronchoscope, which long has been in use at the Jefferson College and hospital for removing foreign objects from human interiors. He suggested that Butt take a chance on getting the bullet out through his throat rather than have it abscess and cause hemorrhage. The bronchoscope was applied to Butt. With its aid the bullet was eliminated through the boy's throat and mouth.

In the case of Butt the bronchoscope was inserted through the larynx and through the windpipe into the right lung. Butt left the hospital two days after the operation.