

Errors in diagnosis will occur, and in the ablest hands, such as in cases of hypernephroma, with lung metastasis, even where severe cough and loss of flesh; certain lung indications, favor a diagnosis of tuberculosis. How frequent in hospitals are cases of old mitral stenosis linked with hæmoptysis, and bronchitis tabulated as serious cases of tuberculosis?

I feel confident the outlook of tuberculosis, in a social sense, is decidedly improving, the result of better housing, cleaner streets and more perfect sewerage.

A chief medical problem before the profession is the early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis. Lesions of the lung are what we are looking for, the required evidence for immediate action, and treatment.

This disease is so insidious and frequent too great care cannot be exercised in defining its presence. In tuberculosis there are conditions yet undefined, and the task is one of quiet and patient observation to arrive at a correct diagnosis, not at present considered complete without the X-ray record of screen, and plate, conveying fluoroscopic and radiographic findings. In the words of the great Pasteur, "Our duty to do good only ends where our power to do good fails."

The medical profession stood to their guns, and irrespective of any personal gains embraced every opportunity to lessen human suffering arising from tuberculosis.

Metchnikoff, successor of Pasteur, recently announced that the death rate in Europe from tuberculosis at present was reduced fully twenty-five per cent.

In conclusion I trust I will be pardoned in suggesting that our Toronto medical friends, participating in tuberculosis, should form a Lænnec Clinic and thus shed fresh light on this important problem, in which the present death rate was greater than in the armies of the world now in sad conflict.

THE WORK OF THE OBSERVATION HOSPITAL FOR MENTAL CASES.*

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STATISTICAL investigations have shown that in the older European countries the proportion of people suffering from psychoses is to the total population as 1 to 250; someone has said 1 to 280. In Ontario the population at the last census was two million five hundred thousand,

* Read at the meeting of the Ontario Medical Association, Peterborough, May 27th, 1915.