

While some have been undoubtedly failures, it is premature to pass judgment on most of them, as they are yet in the experimental stage.

There is one other kind which I wish to mention before concluding and which, as tried in Portugal last year, cannot be declared a decided success. This is the

*Antitubonic serum*¹⁴—Yersin of the Pasteur Institute and Kitasato, about the same time, in 1894, discovered the germ of plague. A serum was prepared after various trials. When the disease broke out in Oporto in 1899, in 142 cases treated with this remedy there was a mortality of 14.78 per cent.; in 72 not treated there was a mortality of 63.72 per cent. It must be given early and in sufficiently large doses. Intravenous injection is the best method. The envoys of this Institute gave as much as 40 cc. at a time. The veins of the hand or wrist were selected, the serum was raised to body temperature, the needle introduced under the sterilized surface of the skin, directly into the blood-vessel, and three or four minutes were taken to inject the fluid. A drop of collodion closed the wound. Prophylactic injections were successfully tried on about 600 persons. Immunity was found to almost immediately follow, but it was short-lived, scarcely lasting more than 15 days, when, however, it could be reproduced by a fresh injection.

The future seems bright for this form of treatment. Though there have been, and will be, no doubt, failures, still victory is often learnt through defeat. The value of the proverbial "ounce of prevention" is well known, and here, where we can accurately measure our ounces and employ them intelligently results will probably follow, as beneficial as they are now ardently desired.

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