

and the doubtful element in the present Council should not be taken by others more worthy and in closer touch with the best interests of the profession.

Yours truly,

Oshawa, June 11th, 1897.

W. COBURN.

Selections.

The New Tuberculin.

IN spite of the fiasco of 1890, Koch's is still a name to conjure with in the study of tuberculosis, and the announcement that he has again published to the world a remedy for this disease cannot fail to arouse eager expectancy among physicians, and to kindle the hopes of the new generation of consumptives which has followed upon that which the tuberculin of seven years ago could not save.

The article descriptive of this new tuberculin appears in the *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift* of April 1, 1897, but any sinister significance which this date might have is removed by the fact that the article itself is dated November 14, 1896, its publication having been delayed, possibly by reason of the author's absence in South Africa. . . . He then comes to a description of the new tuberculin, which is prepared through a mechanical destruction of the bacilli. The great difficulty has been to destroy the protecting layer of sebatic acids, but this was finally accomplished by triturating dried cultures in an agate mortar with an agate pestle, adding distilled water, and separating in a powerful centrifugal machine. In this way he obtained a whitish opalescent fluid, free from bacilli, and a slimy sediment containing the debris of the bacilli and some undestroyed specimens. This sediment was again dried, worked about in a mortar, mixed with water, and separated in a centrifugal machine, the process being repeated until every vestige of the bacilli had disappeared, and nothing remained but a series of clear fluids. The first of these fluids differed from all those subsequently obtained, the latter, however, being identical with each other. The first of these fluids he called tuberculin O, or "T. O."; the second tuberculin R, or "T. R." Treated with glycerine, T. O. is found to contain the substances soluble in this fluid, and is similar therefore to the old tuberculin. It also acts like tuberculin, causing a reaction but not conferring immunity. When glycerine is added in quantity to T. R.,