

Important advances are being made in the pathology of the blood. Although the value of the leucocyte count as a diagnostic sign has possibly been overestimated, yet that it has a distinct value none can deny. The estimation of the percentage of hæmoglobin I have found to be of distinct value in deciding that question sometimes of paramount importance—is the patient in a fit condition for operation? Operations should be undertaken only after serious consideration if the percentage of hæmoglobin present is under 50 per cent., and if less than 25 per cent. one should hesitate unless the conditions are most urgent.

The value of a knowledge of the freezing point of blood and urine is perhaps not yet correctly estimated. It is a time-consuming process. I have had the freezing point of urine determined in about 50 cases at the Montreal General Hospital, but am not yet fully convinced that great dependence can be placed upon it. Ogsten has found it of value.

Gentlemen, I have taken up so much of your time in retrospect that no room is left for prophecy. It must be evident, however, to you all that we are living in a time of great activity. There are no indications of a halt. The future never seemed to hold in hand greater promise of reward to the earnest worker. Bacteriology, Embryological Pathology, Physiological Chemistry and Serum Therapy are terms representing a few of the fields of richest promise.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind attention.