

electrophones is the presence of adventitious clanging and jarring sounds. But it may be hoped that in the not distant future this defect will be remedied.

**Prophylaxis.**—Closely associated with the treatment of otosclerosis is the question of prophylaxis. There is no need to say much in regard to this, however, for the means to be taken to prevent the onset of the disease are practically the same as those employed in treatment, and can be inferred from what has been said in respect to the latter. At the same time it would be ridiculous for the ordinary individual to arrange his way of life with the supreme object of preventing a disease which he will very probably never have, and even never could have ; for, as has been shown, it is apparently only certain individuals who have an innate potentiality sufficiently pronounced to favour the onset of the disease.

But when we come to deal with individuals in whom the potentiality is probably marked, as judged by the evidence of otosclerosis in other members of the family, or in the parents or ancestors, the matter is different. It now becomes the duty of the physician to warn the other members of the family, should they consult him, concerning the tendency to otosclerosis, and to advise them as to the best way of living. The individuals may or may not follow his advice, but at any rate the physician has discharged his duty towards them.

With regard to exercise, there is no doubt that very prolonged and violent muscular effort constantly repeated is liable to call into activity the potentiality to otosclerosis. Football, for example, however valuable and healthful to the ordinary individual, is inadvisable for those who have an inherited tendency to the disease. Hockey comes under the same category, and both sexes must be warned against it. Long-distance racing and competitive rowing, as practised at the universities, are also likely