

disease wherever found, and by every known agency; second, fortifying the body by its natural defences and other agencies; third, waging a relentless warfare against pathogenic micro-organisms. The vastly overestimated value of drugs in the treatment of disease was a relic of mediæval superstition, and belief in magic. The reaction which threatened to carry it to the other extreme has been gradually giving away in the light of modern science to an increased confidence based on a more enlightened and conservative therapeutics.

"In surgery we have made great progress, but we are now and must continue to be content with second place in major surgery. We cannot reasonably deny this fact, when we stop to consider that practically all major operations on the human are performed in well-appointed hospital, while in our subjects, their removal to even such hospitals as we have, is scarcely practicable; their lack of intelligence causes disastrous interference, their bodies are covered with hair, and the incentive for our services is largely pecuniary."

The president touched on the rabies question.

"Reports from many sections of the county," he said, "show an alarming increase of rabies. In England rabies was stamped out, largely by compulsory muzzling of dogs. In this country, a doubt fostered by some misguided medical conferees, as to the reality and importance of the disease, combined with a maudlin sentiment for the dog, has made the enactment of muzzling ordinances in most cases impossible. The success of the pasteur

treatment can no doubt be reasonably questioned. An anti-rabic vaccine for the preventive treatment of rabies in both the human and lower animals is on the market."

Dr. Glover also discussed hog cholera, which he called the great scourge, and also the Southern cattle tick.

The prevalence of tuberculosis was emphasized. According to the United States statistics of 1908, out of 400,008 cattle tested, 3,700, or 9.25 per cent., gave reactions. Of these 24,984 were slaughtered and 93.39 per cent. were found tuberculous.

"Statistics like these," said Dr. Glover, "are invaluable and give us a more definite understanding of the magnitude of the problem confronting us. The subcutaneous tubercular test is one of the great discoveries of modern times. Its reliability is no longer questioned, save in rare instances of the rankest prejudice.

"We know the cause of tuberculosis; we know how to detect it in animals; we have an ample knowledge of its extent, its stupendous economic significance and the terrible tax it levies on human life. We are still hesitating and confused—waiting for some genius who can evolve a plan of campaign which will afford some hope of final success. Until we are ready to pave the way by recommending a feasible and systematic plan of campaign we cannot justly claim the indifference of the people as sufficient cause for inaction. Until the public are aroused from their lethargy and come to a greater appreciation of its importance, we cannot expect that the selfish opposition will be removed."

UNITED STATES

United States Courts Uphold Public Health Laws.

The decision of the Supreme Court in upholding the validity of the St. Paul ordinance regulating the display of fruit and foodstuff outside of buildings, is one that will receive the approval of all who are interested in promoting and protecting the public health. This decision emphasizes again the fact that the police

power of cities and villages for the regulation of all matters pertaining to public health is very broad and that the exercise of such powers will be upheld by the courts. The decision referred to is the second rendered very recently by the High Court on matters of health protection. The other was that sustaining the ordinance requiring the street railway company to sprinkle between their tracks.