

Dr. Lumsden, who, in the course of an investigation lasting three months, visited every known case of typhoid fever in Chicago, found that, in many of the cases, the cause was directly traceable to contact with previous cases. The infection was produced by swallowing the excreta of the patients, which were allowed to lodge upon the bedding, napkins or hands of attendants, and by them introduced into the food supply, or beverages, of persons living in the same house. The conclusion to be drawn from these observations is that, in many cases, the germs of typhoid fever are HANDED OUT by persons, who, while nursing or attending on patients sick with typhoid fever, meddle with or handle the food supply or beverages of the well.

J. J. C.

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#### OPERATIVE TREATMENT OF SIMPLE FRACTURES

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THE operative treatment of simple fracture of the patella has been practised, for many years, with great advantage to the patients. The effort to secure bony union and a close approximation of the fragments has also induced surgeons to apply operative methods to fractures of the olecranon, and the tuberosity of the os calcis.

Some surgeons go further in their efforts to secure close approximation of fractures and include every one of the long bones, especially if the fragments cannot be kept in apposition by ordinary splints. Dr. F. N. G. Starr (clinic to the profession, Toronto