

The number of cases of contagious diseases reported to the Medical Health Department were, June, 1912:—Diphtheria, 92; typhoid, 22; scarlet fever, 91; measles, 25; smallpox, 1; tuberculosis, 84; chicken pox, 13; whooping cough, 14. June, 1911—diphtheria, 97; typhoid, 35; scarlet fever, 115; measles, 49; small pox, 0; tuberculosis, 29. May, 1912—diphtheria, 186; typhoid, 9; scarlet fever, 154; measles, 22; smallpox, 3; tuberculosis, 71.

AN IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

The judgment of Judge Garrison of the Supreme Court of New Jersey is a very important one. Some years ago a noted London surgeon had an action brought against him because he found it necessary to do more than had been anticipated before the operation was commenced. The present case of a patient by the name of Harris Bennan was operated on by Dr. Victor Parsonnet. After the operation was begun, the doctor found another enlargement on the opposite side. This he removed.

The patient brought an action against the doctor and recovered a verdict for \$1,000. This was appealed by Dr. Parsonnet, and the Supreme Court Judge reversed the decision of the lower court, and held that a surgeon was justified in doing what would be for the patient's good, though this could not be all foretold when the consent of the patient was secured.

This judgment will go a long way towards settling a difficult question, and one that has always been a source of trouble to the operating surgeon. In the past it has not always been safe for the surgeon to proceed and do more than the patient had given consent to.

MEDICAL PREPARATIONS, ETC.

THE HAY-FEVER RIDDLE.

Despite the many therapeutic advances of recent years, "what to do for the hay-fever patient" continues to be something of a puzzle. The long-sought specific still eludes us. Nevertheless, the malady is not quite the enigma that it once was. Medication, if still empiric, is not ineffective. The symptoms of the disorder can be controlled or minimized; relief, though temporary in many cases, may be obtained; and for these blessings the afflicted patient and the sympathetic physician may well be thankful.