

ment, as yet undetermined, must also be taken into account in estimating the physiological effects of this beverage. For instance, green tea does not contain more theine than black tea, but its action on the nervous system is more marked, an effect which is not due to its greater richness in tannin. As green tea and black tea are gathered from the same plants, the difference observed in their physiological effects may be due to different methods of preparation. The leaves for green tea are heated or roasted slightly, in shallow pans, over a wood fire, almost immediately after being gathered, after which they are rolled with the hands upon a table to free them from a portion of their moisture, and to twist them, and are then quickly dried. Those intended for black tea are spread out in the air for some time after being gathered, and then tossed about with the hands until they become soft and flaccid, when they are roasted for a few minutes and rolled, and having been exposed to the air for a few hours in a soft and moist state, are finally dried slowly over a charcoal fire. The operation of roasting and rolling is sometimes repeated several times, until the leaves have become of the proper color. On account of their finer aroma and more stimulating properties, the teas of Ceylon and India are preferred to the teas of China. If the infusion is made in two or three minutes, and if the quantity of tea used is moderate, the Cingalese and Indian teas produce no harmful results. However, it must be understood that they contain more tannin than Chinese teas and are therefore less suitable than the latter for the use of persons afflicted with dyspepsia. Well prepared tea is an inoffensive, healthful beverage, but tea rich in tannin gives origin to dyspepsia. The use of green tea produces disorder of the nervous system, but the source of this injury is thought by Sir Lauder Brunton to be due to some other element than theine.

Does the Inhalation of Lime Produce Immunity to Tuberculosis?—In the section of Hygiene and Colonial Medicine at the Lisbon International Congress of Medicine (The *Lancet*, May 19, 1906). Dr. Gaspar Fisac read a paper to show that lime and plaster workers were protected from pulmonary tuberculosis. Many provincial medical men had observed this fact. It would seem that breathing the dust of lime and chalk acted as a preventive; for in the same districts other sections of the population suffered