

STUDY OF KOCH'S TREATMENT IN BERLIN.

BY GEO. T. ROSS, M.D.,

Professor of Physiology, University of Bishop's College, Montreal.

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Gentlemen,—The subject of my report indicates that the work referred to was carried out in the chief centre where the lymph cure is being tested, but as the field in London is secondary only to Berlin in this respect, I will also venture to give a few facts concerning the work done in the English capital.

The most portentous struggle ever witnessed in the history of the world is to-day in active progress. It is not, however, the hand of man raised against his fellow-man, but the mighty hand of science arrayed against the most relentless foe of mankind.

In the hospitals of the civilized world, in the silent wards, beside the couch of suffering thousands, the battle is being fought with the hypodermic syringe as the weapon charged with the minutest portions of a potent fluid, discovered by one who has well deserved of his profession.

Speaking generally, I think it may be safely said that the evidence furnished us throughout Europe up to the present time regarding the Koch remedy ranges all the way between what is contradictory and conflicting to the point where the results are both brilliant and surprising. The exact result of a dose of lymph given in any case cannot be accurately foreseen, and one must be prepared for all kinds of vagaries while watching the phenomenon called reaction. Unexpected general tubercular deposits or idiosyncrasy may develop a dangerous condition of collapse after a minimum dose of one or two milligrams, while a large dose may not at once manifest its effect, but even when cautiously proceeding a startling condition of things may develop. In my experience, however, these unpleasant surprises have not occurred where the precaution was taken to permit normal temperature to be resumed before repeating the dose, a rule which Koch himself emphasizes. As you all know, the temperature after injection varies greatly, and it is important to remember that the curative process may proceed in spite of these variations and during them. I have seen good results following injections which in some cases caused hyperpyrexia and in other cases as much