

can regain health and go back to his old surroundings with the disease cured beyond possibility of its return. This is the great objection to foreign resorts, and the more the public is impressed with this fact the easier it will be for doctors to persuade patients to reside in that portion of this country best suited to their condition. In a statement of this character it is impossible to give an outline of the various divisions of climate which are at the command of the physician in arriving at his selection.

Fresh air and out-of-door life being essentials, other matters have to be taken into consideration in regard to the choice of locality. Thus, we all know the results which have been achieved in places like the Adirondacks, Georgia, the Great Dry Belt of the Rocky Mountains, and in the wonderfully equable climate of Southern California. The most important considerations next to the individual ones already spoken of, are not only the suitability of the climate but the medium by which the individual can take advantage of the places which are theoretically suited to his case, and this is a very important point.

It is well enough to say to a patient, "Go to Colorado, to New Mexico, to Southern California, to Arizona," but should he not be told specifically, after a thorough understanding of the case, to what objective point he should go to find all the advantages which would enable him to benefit by a residence at that particular point? To send an active business man, who has been accustomed to a busy commercial life, surrounded by congenial friends and home comforts, to an isolated ranch seventy-five miles from a railroad station, no matter how salubrious the climate, and have him live on ham and pressed corn-beef, deprived of all social intercourse except what the cowboy can furnish, is enough of itself, when the novelty has worn off, to drive him to

desperation and annul any beneficial influence the climate might have. This applies not only to the man, but is daily manifested in pitiable cases where delicate women have been sent from home to contend with the distressing combination of sickness, poverty and loneliness. Climatic treatment needs, in addition, the advantages found in sanatoria, and were one obliged to make a choice it would be preferable to choose the well-equipped sanitarium, based on modern principles, in a less advantageous climate, than to seek in climate alone a means of cure. This is why the home treatment is assuming such proportions in the discussion of this subject.—*International Medical Magazine*.

SOCIALISM IN MEDICINE.

Nationalization and centralization have, of late, made rapid strides in medicine. The position of the physician as a private person is more and more encroached upon, and it is not an idle speculation or theoretic dream to say that, if the present methods continue to increase as they have done in the past, the physician of the future will be an officer of the State or of the city, duly appointed and salaried as such. Little by little the work of attending to the sick is being taken up by the community, whether federal, State, or municipal in nature, by institutions endowed with public moneys or by private or semi-public corporations. The city officials provide vaccination at the public expense, performing in Philadelphia on an average 11,000 a year, and thrice that number in times of epidemics. The Municipal Hospital of the same city is called upon to admit cases of diphtheria, scarlatina and measles, and during last year's epidemic 183 cases of diphtheria and 159 cases of scarlatina were treated in its wards. With increased facilities, a much larger number will be admitted.