

not so common with us as it is on the continent of Europe, although it must be rapidly increasing with us too. This is one of the most sinister prices we pay for increasing population and increasing commerce, increasing cost of living, and its attendant postponement of the age of marriage.

Another observable feature is the number of lupus patients, and the hopeless tone assumed when speaking of the treatment of this disease. When I would mention how few cases of lupus we have in California, "Remain happy in their absence," would be the invariable answer.

As regards the treatment of syphilis, mercury still holds the first place, and one could see by the blue marks on the patients' skin that in clinic after clinic the inunction method was the favorite. It was so much the favorite in fact that it was seldom mentioned, although many other ways of introducing mercury were adverted to. Good wine needs no bush, and mercurial rubbings speak for themselves. Some men were using intramuscular injections of salicylate of mercury, which undoubtedly are good, and some the bichloride of mercury, which is also excellent. One man apologized for not employing inunctions, saying that one of his assistants was desirous of trying a new preparation much advertised as an intramuscular injection, but which left a fine trail of the mercurial stomatitis behind it. One man was using the sozoiodolate of mercury.

During my journey I heard much of atoxyl as a remedy for syphilis, but saw very little of it used. One man said he used it if he found mercury to disagree. After using atoxyl for a time he would drop it and recur to the use of mercury, which he would not expect to agree. To get decided antisyphilitic effects from atoxyl, however, it has to be pushed to its physiologic limit, and there is danger that the patient may become temporarily blind. There is no occasion for insisting on the gravity of such a situation, as a perambulating case immediately becomes a hospital case. It is no wonder that many are entirely opposed to employing this drug against syphilis. Max Joseph, for instance, did not alone advise atoxyl as an antiluetic remedy, but warned his hearers most emphatically against its use.