

In a very elaborate work, Blumenfeld has given the results of his daily observations, through the year, of the influence of the various meteorological changes exerted on the condition of a large number of phthisical patients. His conclusions prove what Dettweiler of Falkenstein has been preaching for the last twenty-five years, that temperature, atmospheric pressure and humidity scarcely influence the condition of the patient. The only really dangerous thing such patients need to guard against is strong, penetrating wind. Dr H. Weber expressed himself at the Tenth International Congress in the following terms:—The treatment of phthisis is possible wherever there is pure air, wherever appropriate food can be procured, and wherever moderate graduated exercises can be instituted. Von Leyden, Kretschmar, Dujardin-Beaumez, Cantani and other members of the Congress expressed themselves in a similar way. Dr. S. A. Knopf, of New York, in his Paris Thesis of 1895 says:—“ We should not, however, lose sight of an important point in connection with the treatment of phthisis; that a cure, in order to be permanent, should as much as possible be obtained or looked for in a climate in which the patient lives or intends to live definitely.”

During the last Tuberculosis Congress held in London the statement made by Professor Koch which has thrown consternation in the minds of the whole scientific world did not in any way throw light upon the curative methods at our disposal; in his address, besides advocating improved methods in coping with existing disease in centres of population with a view of limiting its dissemination he referred to the sanatorium treatment as the only rational method of treating tuberculosis.

The feeling was freely expressed by the different members of the last Congress that sanatoria and special hospitals were the best implements of warfare in fighting tuberculosis.