

SOME NOTES ON THE USE OF RADIUM IN MEDICINE.

G. E. ARMSTRONG, M.D. This article appears in the June number of the JOURNAL. In the discussion which followed, Professor Cox and Professor Eve, of the Science Faculty of McGill University, went fully into the composition of this substance, and ended up with the hope that the physicians in this country would get together and make it possible for this substance to be manufactured here and so place on the market this remedy within the reach of all, for it is from Colorado that we get the pitch blend from which this Radium is obtained and which is sold at such an exorbitant price in Paris.

G. P. GIRDWOOD, M.D. All of us who are interested in X-Rays and Radio-therapeutics of various kinds are very much indebted to Dr. Armstrong for the paper he has brought before us and for the information he has given. It is an exceedingly interesting subject, this action of radium and the action of X-Rays. The two rays are somewhat identical though not quite so as proved by their use in various conditions. I have a case of rodent ulcer which I had six years ago healed by 17 treatments with X-Rays; it has now broken out again with an ulcer in the very centre of the cicatrix; I am treating this with radium and it is healing up. I also have a case which has been under treatment since 1905, a tubercular lupus. Though sometimes three or four months would elapse between treatments, still it has been kept in abeyance and has been getting gradually better. Lately I have been treating it with radium and it is improving much more rapidly. Two years ago was the first attempt I made at curing with radium and that was with a very weak specimen and not much benefit was obtained. In the British Medical Journal there is an article by Mackenzie Davidson, and he goes into the subject very thoroughly and completely corroborates the account Dr. Armstrong has given us to-night of the work at the Radium Institute in Paris. I think we are to be congratulated on having here to-night Professor Cox and Professor Eve, and I beg to move a vote of thanks to them for their kindness in coming here and giving us information.

A. E. GARROW, M.D. I was very much interested in the remarks made by Dr. Armstrong, and I rather got the impression that he was telling us what he saw rather than what he was inclined to believe. The statements made as to the cure of epitheliomas are, I think, on a par with the original statements made of the cure of superficial cancer by the X-Rays, and I think we must not, just at the very beginning of this form of treatment, fail to keep in mind that the cure of the superficial cancers is only one point of the probable presence of the disease at the time the treatment is begun, and until we have definite evidence that this particular method of treatment can follow up the lymphatic channels and en-