

liam Macdonald. Professor Grawitz makes two very striking statements, 1st. That primary tuberculosis of the alimentary canal is rare, and still, the chief entrance for meat and milk. 2nd. That primary tuberculosis of the upper air passages, in which bacilli, in the air and the food, would likely lodge, is a rare occurrence also. The first impression of the deadly character of the "Tubercle Bacillus" has changed considerably during a brief period. Dr. Clifford Allbutt, of Cambridge, England, states his opinion that the prolonged use of tuberculous milk is known to have produced no serious effect in old or young, and this statement endorsed by Koch "that man *was not infected* by the tuberculous milk and meat of "the Bovine species," is quite a change of opinion, and one which cannot fail to lessen the fears of an excited public on these points. Of the two articles of diet, meat and milk, there is certainly much less prospect of danger from the former than the latter, as meat is consumed in a cooked condition, and thus the vitality of any contained organisms destroyed. Tuberculosis is a disease more of the visceral organs and serous surfaces than otherwise, and not being disseminated by the vascular system, the muscular tissues are not so readily invaded. Doubtless in advanced stages of this disease there may be a possibility of danger from the use of such meat. Here should come in systematic meat inspection in abattoirs by able experts under Federal and Municipal inspectors. By the advocacy of such action, our Association may in time accomplish a good work, and lessen, in a remarkable degree, the present death rate from tuberculosis. The impression gaining ground is that a positive tuberculine reaction should not be followed by the severe and expensive method of destroying all such flesh as useless and dangerous. According to Sir Dyce Duckworth (*Lancet*, Nov. 9, 1901), one of the most important elements concerned in the question is the personal factor, or the relation of the host, towards the intruding and infecting parasite. The alarming impression abroad is, that the human system is ever subject to danger from the surrounding atmosphere containing bacilli. Providing the system has a fit soil, brought about by diversified circumstances, the bacillus may lodge and take root, but certainly not otherwise. Where such soil is absent, there is comparative freedom from this disease. Facts of a telling character cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence on the public mind, and lessen in a great degree the apprehension which exists as to the sudden invasion of tuberculosis, inasmuch as it is a question of soil proclivity in the particular host, which receives the tuberculous microbe. It is an old saying, "nothing new under the sun," illustrated by the fact that Virchow, years ago, noted the difference between Human and Bovine Tubercu-