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**TUBERCULOSIS.**

The discussion on Tuberculosis at the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society was closely followed by a large and appreciative audience. We publish in our last and present numbers the papers forming the basis of the discussion, and the society is to be congratulated on listening to such a series of excellent essays on this all-important theme.

The diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis is now established on a firm scientific basis and its recognition need no longer be based almost exclusively on the discovery of certain physical signs at the apex of the lung, signs which, in the early stage of the disease, may be equivocal or absent. The value of thorough and frequent examination of the sputa is now very generally recognised in establishing an early and positive diagnosis, but this measure is unfortunately too often neglected. In tuberculin we have a diagnostic aid of extreme delicacy in doubtful cases. The veterinarians have long used this measure and it is to their example that we owe the revival of this practice in man. Perhaps the chief objection to the test is its extreme delicacy, and a positive reaction due to a quiescent tubercular focus may prove a source of much mental distress to the victim of the experiment. At the same time when duly weighed with other clinical features the value of this test must be regarded as a very high one.

After all that has been said and written on the early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis the unfortunate fact remains that a very large number of patients drift into a comparatively advanced stage of the disease before its true nature is recognised. Even when an early diagnosis is arrived at, most patients are totally unable to avail themselves of the prolonged and expensive treatment necessary for its arrest. In this province no attempt has hitherto been made to care for the consumptive poor. In Germany this problem has been attacked by the workingmen's insurance societies, membership of which is rendered