

conceded: (1) As a means of prophylaxis; (2) in suitable cases when continued during convalescence, to prevent relapses; (3) to combat local infections with the typhoid bacillus, as, for example, bone suppurations which arise in the period of convalescence; (4) for the removal of typhoid bacilli from the feces and urine in the case of typhoid carriers.

Syphilis.—During the past year numerous papers dealing with salvarsan, generally known as "606," have appeared. This is probably the greatest discovery that has taken place in the domain of medicine for probably the last decade. The papers published in regard to its effects have been numerous and optimistic. Granting that the tone of medical opinion has been too optimistic, there yet remains little doubt that remarkable results will be obtained from this mode of treatment.

It would require too much time to enumerate in detail the progress that is being made in the various branches of medicine. While, as has been said, the past two years have, with possibly the two exceptions noted, not been productive of any startling discoveries, they have been years of activity in the line of medical research.

Progress in surgery depends, to a large extent, upon the earliest possible recognition of the surgical lesion and the technique of its treatment. The early recognition of the surgical lesion is really more of a medical problem than it is surgical. This, in itself, constitutes a problem of no small magnitude, inasmuch as it includes the education of the public. The laity must be informed, to a certain extent, in regard to the signs and symptoms of those diseases for which at the present time they do not seek the advice of their family physician, the general practitioner. The results obtained by associations organized for the study and prevention of tuberculosis show the value of a propaganda for public instruction along these lines. The surgical diseases about which the public should receive instruction are numerous. The first dressing of a wound is one of the most important factors in the prevention of infection. Incipient cancerous lesions, especially when located upon exposed mucous membranes of the skin, are apparently insignificant—so much so that very few persons seek professional advice before the lesion has grown and has reached a stage of lymphatic involvement. Women should be educated in regard to the possible significance of uterine hemorrhage, if the results of operation for cancer of the uterus are to be improved. Side by side with this education of the public must progress the education of the general practitioner in the recognition of the earlier signs and symptoms of surgical lesions.