

lately four cases of this infection that apparently developed in the city of Montreal.

Actinomycosis is a much more common disease than is usually considered.

S. B. WOLBACH, M.D.—I agree with practically everything that has been said this evening, particularly about the fatality of the disease where most of the cases wind up with generalized metastases in the lungs and the brain. Dr. Keenan's statement regarding castrated cattle was known by me, but I do not see that it argues against Dr. Wright's belief that the microorganism multiplies only in the intestinal tract. Of course Bostwem did find in his serial sections foreign bodies and these consisted of husks of grain and he cultivated from these husks an actinomycetes, but I think that Wright has shown that this was not the organism which produced the disease in man. Wright makes the statement that pathogenic actinomycetes will not grow at room temperature and in the presence of oxygen and that they do not produce spores. But assuming that they grow only in the intestinal tract; that would give, of course, with the discharge of dung a very wide distribution of actinomycetes in rural districts. I think the most probable hypothesis in Dr. Hutchison's case, is that the acute appendicitis may have furnished a portal of entry for the organism. It seems to be necessary to have some definite injury for the actinomycetes to take hold. In cattle, injuries about the mouth are common and I believe the same holds true in man.

#### THE PLACE OF BRACES IN THE TREATMENT OF WEAK PRONATED AND FLAT FEET, WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO A SIMPLE METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PLASTER CAST ON WHICH THEY ARE FASHIONED.

A. MACKENZIE FORBES, M.D.

Dr. Forbes illustrated this report with cases and material used in the preparation of the casts.

#### REPORT ON THE METHOD OF SPINAL ANÆSTHESIA AS DEMONSTRATED IN NEW YORK BY PROFESSOR JONNESCO, OF BUCHAREST.

W. W. CHIPMAN, M.D. read this report which appears in the January number of this JOURNAL.

G. E. ARMSTRONG, M.D.—We are all very much indebted to Dr. Chipman for this valuable, and at the same time, extremely interesting report of the clinic at Mount Sinai given by Professor Jonnesco. As Dr. Chipman says, spinal analgesia is no longer in its infancy, and, unless something new develops in technique or the selection of drugs, I think we are in a position to form a fairly judicial estimate and to give an opinion that can hardly be called premature or ill-founded.