

## EXCITEMENT IN BERLIN OR "606."

From Berlin recently came the following despatch: The latest agitation against Dr. Ehrlich's salvarsan or "606" remedy broke open last week with a movement that the Government either forbid or restrict its use. Dr. Dreuw, medical advisor to the police, sent a letter to the Imperial health authorities to the effect that salvarsan had not proven to be what Dr. Ehrlich had claimed for it, but that on the contrary it was a dangerous remedy if it was a remedy at all.

Dr. Dreuw said that medical reports showed that there had been more than 275 deaths of persons on whom salvarsan had been used, and that a large number of patients had been paralyzed or rendered blind or deaf. He added that the University of Strassburg takes a view similar to his in regard to the so-called remedy.

Dr. Ehrlich, in reply to this letter, said that probably more than a million cases had been treated with salvarsan. He did not know the number of deaths attributed to "606," but if it was only 275, that certainly was a small percentage in view of the number of patients that had been cured.

Dr. Ehrlich added that even the deaths which have been attributed to salvarsan may have been the fault of the physician in prescribing it, in an improper manner, or of the patients by disobeying the instructions of the doctors. He declared that "if the advantages were not far greater than the disadvantages, I would not permit its use for another second."

It is the opinion in medical circles in Berlin that governmental action in the direction of prevention of the use of salvarsan is doubtful.

## BONUSES PAID MOTHERS IN AUSTRALIA.

Since the Maternity Allowance Act came into force, 14 months ago, 149,229 Commonwealth mothers have drawn the £5 bonus, and the Treasury has paid out the sum of £746,145 to mark the arrival of new little Australians. In New South Wales 57,140 applications for the allowance have been made, and 56,342 of them have been approved. In Victoria 40,739 mothers out of 41,052 who applied have been granted the bonus.

## TORONTO VISITED BY TWO NOTED MEDICAL MEN.

Sir William B. Leishman, F.R.C.S., M.B., C.M., R.A.M.C., Professor of Pathology at the Army Medical College, London, gave an address before the Toronto Academy of Medicine on typhoid fever inoculation. Sir W. B. Leishman has done a good deal of original research work on yellow fever and the sleeping disease.

Dr. Robert Abbé, senior surgeon to St. Luke's Hospital, New York, gave an address before the Academy on the therapeutics of radium.