

Thus was closed the greatest meeting of the 35 years of the Association, and it is to be hoped that the profession throughout Canada will still further take an active interest in this national organization.

Progress of Medical Science.

MEDICINE AND NEUROLOGY

IN CHARGE OF

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THE DIAZO-REACTION AS A METHOD OF DIAGNOSIS IN CLINICAL MEDICINE.

The actual value of a clinical test depends upon its applicability to everyday work. Should it prove to be a method which can be easily employed in routine practice, and if it be granted that the results obtained are reliable, then there can be no doubt that the test has come to stay.

Much has been written of late upon the value of the diazo-reaction as a test for enteric fever, but it still seems that opinions are by no means unanimous as to the worth of the test in the diagnosis of this disease; and it has certainly been proved that the reaction occurs in maladies other than enteric fever, of which disease tuberculosis is the most important. Acting on the above principles, I have examined the urine in 125 cases of all kinds and descriptions for the diazo-reaction. The cases have not been selected in any way, but the process has been applied in the outpatient room and the result noted.

On these 125 cases in which the urine was examined, 5 only gave a positive reaction. In 120 instances no result whatever was obtained. Amongst those patients whose urine gave a negative result were instances of diseases of the lung of various kinds—phthisis, heart disease, gastric ulcer, bronchitis, etc.

The 5 cases were classified as follows: One was a case of acute tonsillitis; another of lobular pneumonia; two were cases of enteric fever in an early stage, and one was suffering from acute tuberculosis. The last patient was