

During the greater part of the year we have been fortunate in having had the services of Dr. J. T. Bowie, who efficiently supervised the routine work of the laboratory, when our time was largely taken up with University work.

Specimens examined and reported on.

SPUTA.				
	Positive.	Negative.	Total.	
Examination for the tubercle bacillus	132	318	450	
General bacteriological examination	239	
Total specimens of sputa examined	689	

THROAT SWABS FOR DIPHTHERIA.

Positive.	Negative.	Total.
86	177	263

All suitable swabs are examined direct, and in a few cases immediate positive reports can be issued. Cultures are examined after twelve hours' and again after twenty-four hours' incubation. In one case only was the diphtheria bacillus found after twenty-four hours' incubation, where it had not been detected after twelve hours. No cases of Vincent's angina were reported during the year.

WIDAL REACTION.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
For typhoid	14	63	77
For paratyphoid fever	0	3	3
Total	80

WASSERMAN REACTION IN SYPHILIS.

Positive.	Negative.	Total.
25	32	57

The original reaction (slightly modified) is the method used. The increased number of positive reactions as compared with previous years is partly due to the fact that practitioners are availing themselves more and more of the reaction in diagnosis, and partly because the number of cases of syphilis in the primary and secondary stages is on the increase in this district, which has in the past been singularly free from the disease.

EXAMINATION OF SMEARS AND EXUDATES FOR THE SPIROCHÆTA PALLIDA.

Positive.	Negative.	Total.
5	4	9

URINE.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tubercle bacillus	26	21	47
Typhoid bacillus	2	1	3
Streptococci	5	..	5
Staphylococcus (aureus or albus)	18	..	18
B. coli communis (group) including B. lactis ærogenes ..	43	..	43
Gonococcus	1	1
Pneumococcus	1	..	1
Influenza bacillus	1	..	1
Sporothrix	2	2
Torula	2	..	2
Enterococcus	1	..	1
Sterile specimens	28
Total specimens	152

The most noticeable feature of this group is the large increase of positive examinations for the tubercle bacillus, 26 as compared with 3 in 1912. In the majority of cases the result was confirmed by animal inoculation.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF PUS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES (BACTERIA ISOLATED).

Pneumococcus	11	B. lactis ærogenes	1
Gonococcus—positive, 10; negative, 7 ..	17	Diphtheroids	15
Staphy. aureus	45	Strep. actinomyces—negative, 1 ..	1
Staphy. albus	14	Sporothrix—negative, 1 ..	1
B. coli	16	Sterile	14
Streptococci	31	Mixed infection—various	2
Tubercle bacillus—positive, 1; negative, 2	3		
B. proteus	1	Total specimens	174
B. friedlander	2		