

III. DEVELOPMENT OF DEFENSIVE HYGIENE FACILITIES.

Man's powers to defend himself against the ravages of disease and death have revolved around the evolution of the physician. In every age the methods of defense have been dominated by theories of disease in vogue at the particular time. To understand modern medicine it is necessary to trace its history.

1. Primitive Medical Practice and the Demonic Theory.

Demons and disease linked in minds of primitive folk. No knowledge of disease from within. Cures in the form of charms, incantations, etc.

2. Early Greek Medicine (500 B. C.)

Pestilences endowed with life and thought to be present in the air. To be controlled by sacrifices and prayers. Little advance in anatomy and physiology.

Hippocrates--the Father of Medicine (460-377 B. C.), influenced thought intensely for 500 years.

- (a) His theory of healing power of nature.
- (b) His theory of 4 humors.
- (c) His theory that disease caused by natural causes, not supernatural.
- (d) His physician's code of ethics.

3. Early Roman Medicine (A. D. 150)

The age of compilations. Blind followers of tradition.

Galen--the first noted experimental physician. Influenced medicine for 1000 years.

- (a) Discovered that brain was center of nervous system.
- (b) Discovered function and purpose of kidneys.
- (c) Discovered action of heart valves.

4. Medicine in Middle Ages (400-1453 A. D.)

Reversion to mysticism and demons in early part of Middle Ages. Church sole arbiter of knowledge. No particular advance in medicine. Medical dogmas held sway.

5. Medicine in 16th Century.

Revival of learning came with explorations and the invention of the printing press.

Versalius--with his studies revived anatomy. Galen's teachings questioned. Empiricism held sway.

6. Medicine in 17th Century.

Great advance in anatomy. Rebirth of medical interest. The microscope in use. Physiology as a science.