

be labelled dangerous, and either the trade abolished or the premises inspected and fumigated. Most people are anxious to sell clothes, bedding and furniture after a case of contagious disease, and for some reason or other it is always done before the Board of Health arrives to fumigate. As many people are anxious to patronise the second-hand store, and so may buy their deaths cheap but sure.

When I found the wives and children of rag pedlars, many having skin and eye infections, in the small sheds, busy tearing up rags and sorting them, I brought it to the notice of the Board of Health, and women and children were prohibited from working in the rag shops. Most of these pedlars were Italians.

Dumping grounds where women and children get second-hand cinders present another source of infection, as a great deal of sick-room refuse goes into the ash barrel. It behoves each city to protect the ignorant, and prohibit such custom.

Boarding and lodgings, where homeless consumptives abide until death, if not rejected before for lack of funds, from the nature of this disease must be deadly to all newcomers, unless well looked after and cleaned thoroughly, which is very seldom done.

One old man who was dying, with difficulty said, "If I had a million dollars to-day I would"—As he seemed tired, I said, "Would you buy your health back?" "Oh, no; I would build a big hospital for the likes of me, so they need not suffer like a dog, as I did."

One great source of infection must be due to house pets and vermin.

Tenement house dogs and cats are, as a rule, not kept clean; they are handled by the sick and other members of the family and neighbours, and so distribute germs wherever they go.

Flies, cockroaches, bugs, etc., must from the nature of their scavenger traits contaminate the food and blood of inmates.

Dry sweeping, whether of street, school-rooms, carpeted halls, or living rooms, should be prohibited. Janitors and housekeepers should realise the danger lurking in dust to themselves and others.

What a lot of teaching it took to do away with the dim religious twilight in sick rooms and to allow the patient the benefit of daylight and night air, and also to insist upon daily ablutions; the dread of water was as great as the dread of air.

Dirty finger nails are a great source of infection. Children playing on floors scratch their skin, and tubercular abscesses may result.

Several babies died with tubercular

meningitis within two or three weeks after having been vaccinated; the babies had been healthy and strong up to that time. There was no history of tuberculosis in family. The mothers were careless, and the wounds had not been kept clean.

Open meat and baker waggons, in which the food is exposed to street dust, cannot be wholesome.

Restaurants and public drinking-houses, whether soda fountains or bar-rooms, all need inspection for more cleanliness.

The most practical solution of the large problem of prevention of tuberculosis would be in enforcing civic and domestic cleanliness, which cannot be done alone by making laws, but by educating the general public in the whys and wherefores of such laws, and so obtaining their co-operation.

Pure air can only be found in clean streets and clean homes. Pure water must come from pure sources; pure food from honest manufacturers. Clean dealers, clean restaurants, and a clean family kitchen; clean bodies, and clean living, and this terrible disease will soon be a matter of history. Better housing conditions, abolishing cellar habitations and workshops, better isolation of patients with contagious diseases, more supervisions from the Departments of Health, of intelligent officials, capable of teaching hygiene, domestic and personal, prevention of overcrowding among our large cities and foreign population, and much will be done to prevent sickness and poverty.

When the men and women of science and experience become teachers of those who are in darkness, they will have realised their true mission in life, and become co-workers with nature's great law, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

THE SPREAD OF SLEEPING SICKNESS.

Mr. Rees, Member for Montgomery Boroughs, asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, recently, in the House of Commons, whether, with reference to the first report of the research expedition sent out to Central Africa by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to the effect that *Glossina palpalis* is not the only carrier of sleeping sickness, and to the fact that *Glossina morsitans* is found all over Nyasaland, the Government was taking special steps to prevent the further spread of sleeping sickness southwards to Nyasaland.

Colonel Seely, in reply, stated that steps are being taken to deal with the matter, the importance of which is and has been fully realised both by the Secretary of State and the Governor.

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