

to the lower and more assailable part of the canal. Entrance appears generally to be effected through the lymph follicles of the ilium and large intestine, while the upper part of the canal almost invariably escapes, owing probably to the more active character of its secretions. In this way the frequency of intestinal and mesenteric tuberculosis in children may be explained. Woodhead states that in 127 children dying of tuberculosis the mesenteric glands were involved in 100.

The bacillus may gain entrance along with the food in many ways, but undoubtedly the most frequent method is in cow's milk. There can be no doubt, at the present day, of the fact that the milk of tuberculous cows may contain the specific bacilli, whether they have a tuberculous affection of the udder or not, although we may admit that the milk is much more liable to be infected if the udder or teats are diseased. The valuable investigations conducted by Prof. Ernst have demonstrated that the milk of tuberculous cows in 55 per cent. of the experiments conveyed tuberculosis when inoculated into the lower animals, even when there was no appearance of any tubercular mammitis.

Tubercular meat may also occasionally be a source of infection when imperfectly cooked, but this must be a comparatively infrequent source.

Other occasional means by which food may become contaminated and thus afford a means of entrance for the bacillus to the intestinal tract will occur to all of you on thinking over the subject.

A third, but fortunately only a very occasional mode of infection is by inoculation. Infection may occur from a wound in the post-mortem room or operating theatre. It has been occasionally recorded as a sequence to the performance of the rite of circumcision when the operator suffered from tuberculosis, and especially if there happened to be any tubercular sore upon the mouth. Vaccination is also a possible, although not a probable, source of the conveyance of the infection.

Under these circumstances, when danger threatens from so many sources, the question arises as to the best means of prophylaxis. Very fortunately for us though many seeds are sown only those that fall on favourable ground survive. The healthy organism appears able to rid itself of many intruders,