

that within the past two years, in the five cities, Boston, Cambridge, Lynn and Everett, there have been eighteen outbreaks of typhoid fever, fourteen of which have been traced directly to milk.

Of still greater significance, however, is "The Second Interim Report of the Royal Commission on Human and Animal Tuberculosis¹⁶," in which their conclusion was to the effect that a large proportion of tuberculosis contracted by ingestion is due to bacilli of bovine source, and that a very considerable amount of disease and loss of life, especially among children, must be attributed to cows' milk containing tubercle bacilli.

The presence of tubercle bacilli in cows' milk can be detected, though with some difficulty, if the proper means be adopted, and such milk ought never to be used as food. There is far less difficulty, however, in recognizing clinically that a cow is suffering from tuberculosis, in which case she may be yielding tuberculous milk. The milk procured from such a cow ought not to form a part of human food, and, indeed, ought not to be used as food at all. "Our results clearly point to the necessity of measures more stringent than those at present in force being taken to prevent the sale or consumption of such milk."

In January last the Health Committee of Birmingham¹⁷ issued to the City Council the report of the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Robertson) and the Veterinary Superintendent (Mr. Malcolm) upon the investigations which had been made in regard to the infection by tubercular bacilli of the milk supplied to Birmingham. The collection of the samples of milk was undertaken by the assistant veterinary surgeon of the corporation, and the subsequent examinations were made by Prof. Leith and his staff in the bacteriological department of the University. Between September 13th, 1906, and July 31st, 1907, in 175 samples taken from the churns at the railway stations and other places tubercle bacilli were present in 14 per cent.

Dr. McCaw¹⁸, senior physician to the Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, after twenty years' careful observations and study of tuberculosis in children in connection with his hospital work, in his own hospital, and a careful examination, on exactly the same basis, of the returns of the Ulster Hospital for Sick Children; Great Ormond Street, London; Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Children, Manchester Children's Hospital, East London Children's Hospital, Glasgow Children's Hospital, presents the following significant report:

TUBERCULOSIS.

1906—Belfast Hospital for Sick Children—

No. intern. patients, 827; No. tuberculous, 26.10 %.