

method of their control.

Consumption is not only communicated by the victim of this disease, but the danger to his family and to the community is far more prolonged and far-reaching than that of the zymotic diseases. Consequently, if we take him from his family and in a sanatorium teach him how to live so as not to be in the future a menace to his family or to the community, it must be admitted that the sanatorium represents an exceedingly valuable educational feature, the benefits of which cannot at first sight be adequately estimated. He becomes an apostle of hygiene. His well-trained manner of living after his return home is perhaps the greatest achievement of the sanatorium. Such patients not only improve the sanitary conditions of their homes, but are, in addition, a valuable object lesson to the whole community.

With respect to the cure of the disease, it has been firmly established that the earlier Consumption cases are sent to the sanatorium for treatment, the larger will be the percentage of cures. Cure of the disease may practically be based upon the capacity for work enjoyed by those who have had the treatment, as well as upon the length of time which has elapsed since leaving the institution. Between the years 1899 and 1903 there were treated in German sanatoria about 70,000 cases. In these five years the percentage of cures ranged from 72 per cent. to 80 per cent., increasing as the years went on. This increase is an indication that as the value of the treatment was demonstrated a larger number of cases in the earlier stage were received.

The permanency of the cure may be judged from the fact that from 92 per cent. to 94 per cent. of these cases retained a full working capacity after two years.

Riches' table given herewith indicates the after histories of cases during one to nine years after cure, as measured by their working capacity:

Year.	Total no. of persons treated.	Years after discharge.	Persons enjoying working capacity in 1904 for	
			Full work.	Light work.
1895	56	9	45.5	7.3
1896	146	9	61.2	12.2
1897	218	7	59.2	13.4

1898	251	6	53.7	14.5
1899	306	5	55.7	14.9
1900	296	4	61.0	20.9
1901	215	3	51.6	20.0
1902	175	2	65.5	17.5

These figures indicate not the percentage of those cured, but, of all patients treated whose working capacity was preserved. The fact that eight years after discharge from sanatoria 73 per cent. of those treated were still able to work and 61 per cent. retained a full working capacity must effectually confute the assertion that the clinical results of sanatoria treatment do not justify their existence.

A third objection raised against sanatorium treatment is that it does not pay. Perhaps as good a reply to this objection is the position taken by industrial insurance companies in Germany. These were established about the year 1881 for the purpose of providing relief for German workmen afflicted with illness. After a few years it was found that, out of the total payments made on account of illness of persons of 30 years of age, more than one-half were due to Consumption. The insurance companies, in order to decrease the large draft thus made upon their resources, undertook the treatment of such cases in consumptive sanatoria, with the result that in the years from 1886 to 1901 the annual death-rate in Germany from Consumption fell from 310 per 100,000 to 190 per 100,000, and during the period from 1898 until 1904 83,000 persons received this form of treatment at the hands of the industrial insurance companies.

The companies then took up the question of sanatoria of their own. Careful investigation showed that, if out of 500 consumptives 140 could be so far restored as to do without sick pay for a year, this would recoup the company for their cost of treatment in a sanatorium and for the erection and maintenance of one of its own.

Examples of the action of the companies are seen in the fact that the Regional Insurance Society has spent on special hospitals a sum of £1,650,000, and that a few years ago representatives of thirty-seven insurance companies met and decided to spend £2,000,000 sterling in erecting and providing sanatoria for their clients.