

at the present time. Especially true is this in regard to the part Tuberculosis takes in our industrial life. Our economists and statisticians have as yet given us few figures of local interest, but from those who have studied this subject in other countries much valuable information may be obtained.

Consumption is so costly to companies insuring against sickness, that in Germany, these companies find it pays to send 9,000 workmen in a year to Consumptive Sanatoria, for an average of eleven weeks, at a cost of \$7.50 per head per week, (total cost \$765,000), in order to restore them to wage earning power. The German Imperial Insurance office reports that of every 1,000 German workmen, between the ages of twenty and thirty years, who are rendered unfit for work, 535 are rendered so because of Consumption. When the bread is taken from the mouths of those dependent upon German workmen, in more than 50 per cent. of the cases it is due to Tuberculosis.

It must be borne in mind that over 75 per cent. of the deaths from Consumption are bread-winners whose ages range from fifteen to fifty-five years, in this particular differing from other infectious diseases. Considering that Tuberculosis runs a number of years before it proves fatal, and that there is a lengthy period of nursing, medical attendance, food, etc. Cornet estimates that Consumption demands an annual increase of the tax of 3.09 marks for every man, woman, and child in Prussia.

The English National Association for the Prevention of Consumption finds, upon investigation that 1-11 of all pauperism, costing in England and Wales £10,500,000 a year, arises from Consumption; that one-quarter of all deaths during the wage-earning age

are due to Consumption, leaving many widows and children to receive aid from poor laws, friendly societies and charity organizations. The average age at death of these Consumptives was thirty-two years. This is a loss of ten years of labor at an average wage power of £35 per year, a loss of £350 per life (equivalent to \$1,700 per life). The 8,000 Consumptives in English Infirmaries cost £600,000 per year. To summarize:—Annual Death Rate in England and Wales from consumption, 60,000. Proportion of these wage earners, 75 per cent., 45,000. Ten year's loss of labor at £350 per life—£15,750,000.

Thus every year England and Wales pay a yearly tribute to this fell destroyer in loss of wages alone of £15,750,000, which would pay their entire bill for pauperism and leave nearly enough to distribute a pound to every man, woman, and child, in the City of London.

The Actuary of the Prudential Life Insurance Company states, that 150,000 die of Consumption in the United States each year, at an average age of thirty-five years. The natural life expectancy at this period is thirty-five years. If we then assume that the net value of a year of human life after the age of thirty-five years is at least \$50, the real loss to the nation resulting from this disease is \$250,000,000 per annum. This provides nothing for the cost of maintenance during a lengthy illness and loss of production for one or two years before death, or for public or other maintenance of those dependent upon these sufferers, so that the actual loss to the country and this added burden must make the total tribute to this disease at least double these figures. Osler estimates the loss of wages alone of bread-winners, suffering from Consumption, at \$140,000,000 each year in the United