

one of its members had continued to work in the dairy while suffering from a mild type of the disease.

Another good example of a scarlet fever epidemic, caused by a contaminated milk supply, is that reported by Dr. Robertson, of Keswick. In this instance the contagion had found access to the milk of a dairy, closely adjoining a house where scarlet fever had existed for several weeks. The cows were milked every night and morning into open pails, and the milk carried across an open yard past the affected household. The children who first contracted scarlet fever in the locality played about the yard while in a state of desquamation. Very shortly afterwards, a general epidemic of scarlet fever broke out in the town and, in two days, upwards of 30 to 40 families became sufferers from the disease. All those that contracted the disease received their milk supply from this particular dairy. Some members of every family supplied became infected almost at the same time, practically all on the same day with either a scarlatinal sore throat or scarlet fever. Other families supplied from a different source escaped the disease. A lodger with one of the unfortunate families took the raw milk for supper and contracted the disease. His landlady drank boiled milk from the same sample. She escaped the disease.

We must here observe the large number of scarlet fever cases occurring on the same day. The inference from this fact is that, a day or two previous to this outbreak, the children, while playing in the yard, had in some way conveyed the infection to the milk in their neighborhood.

In 1885, an epidemic of scarlet fever occurred in Rostock, Germany, apparently from milk infection, a very striking increase in scarlet fever occurred in June, in which month 36 cases developed. It was discovered that the families, with two or three exceptions, were supplied with milk from a farm in the village of Gehlsdorf where six cases of scarlet fever and a number of cases of sore throat existed among the farmers' families and employees. Some of those who were taken ill had milked the cows and had handled the milk. According to investigation of the Rostock physicians, 8 of the 36 cases could of a certainty be attributed to infection from the milk. As indicating the presence of the infecting agent in the milk, it was noted that those who drank boiled milk escaped. This was the case in two children, two and four years of age, who remained free from illness, although other children in the same household who drank raw milk contracted the disease.

The *Medical Record* of March 28, 1896, contains Freeman's paper on the transmission of various diseases through infected milk. In 26 epidemics of scarlet fever in England traceable to milk, he showed that 15 of these were found to be due to the disease in man.