

route. A quick subsidence of the epidemic followed the suppression of the milk, thorough cleansing and disinfection."

The epidemic which occurred at Williamstown, Mass., was found by its investigation to have been caused by infected cream eaten with breakfast food.

Some of the typhoid which we have had in Poughkeepsie may have been caused by infected milk, for our system of inspection is not yet perfected nor are our dealers pointed out as models of cleanliness, therefore our milk should be taken into consideration when many cases develop. We face the possibility of an epidemic from infected milk here as do all places where the supply comes from so many sources.

Another reason is because some of our fever cases are not traced, because they do not have the official stamp—that is, do not respond to the Widal test or the diazo reaction during the first week. It seems to me that cases which do not respond to the Widal test or the diazo reaction, yet present the clinical signs, should be reported and investigated for safety's sake at least.

While the majority of the cases of typhoid respond during the first week to the Widal test, there are cases in which the reaction is delayed or occasionally absent, therefore a negative result of the test does not exclude the diagnose of typhoid. (Dr. Welch, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, August 14, 1897.)

The diazo reaction is also open to criticism. Some cases are not subjected to tests, hence are not accepted.

Where two or three cases of typhoid are found along the route of a certain dealer, his place should be inspected, as should the homes of all those who deliver milk to him for distribution.

All physicians should co-operate with the Health Officer and report promptly all cases of typhoid. In this way the disease is not likely to obtain a very great foothold or make much progress.

The milk committee of this society, by its inspections of the city supply and by its demonstrations and instructions to dealers, are doing a good work for the city, by lessening the chances for infection by the milk route, and consequently should receive our hearty support and endorsement.