

How quickly would leprosy be dealt with by law if it obtained a foothold in Ontario? And yet leprosy is less contagious and less quickly fatal than tuberculosis.

1. As to home treatment: Make an early and positive diagnosis by microscope and physical signs, and, as a rule, frankly inform the patient of the nature of the disease.

2. Insist on as near an out-door life as possible, suitable exercise in non-febrile cases, and rest where temperature goes above 102°.

3. Give abundant food, and attend closely to the condition of digestive organs.

4. Avoid dusty, damp or unwholesome places in order to escape secondary infection as far as possible. Some one has justly said that "consumption is tuberculosis with pyemia added."

5. Our best drugs for internal administration are creosote, cod liver oil and hypophosphites.

6. I have seen some benefit from the use of nuclein, but patients dread the pain caused by the injections so much that I now seldom use it.

7. Antiseptic inhalations, as a rule, appear to be of benefit. Among other agents, I have for some months past used formalin, and with very great advantage. At first the vapor is somewhat irritating, but they tolerate it better the longer they continue its use. It seems reasonable to suppose that antiseptics inhaled into the lungs meet with and poison many streptococci, bacilli tuberculosis and other pathogenic germs, and thus lessen hectic, and perhaps retard the extension of the disease to healthy lung tissue.

I have now only a few words to say about prevention. The increase in prevalence of consumption in our part of Eastern Ontario during the past few years is quite noticeable to the practising physician without the confirmatory evidence of the Registrar-General's reports.

1. The favorable culture fields that catarrhal conditions of the mucous membranes of the air passages afford to the germ of tuberculosis should cause us to give these diseases careful treatment.

2. Phthisical patients must be carefully instructed as to the disposal of their sputum in such a manner as to avoid infecting others and re-infecting themselves. The early removal of these patients to sanatoria would greatly lessen the chances of infection to their families.

3. Very great care should be taken to prevent the use of the milk and flesh of tuberculous animals as food. It is claimed that tuberculosis in cows is largely due to overmilking. Bulls, steers and unimpregnated heifers escape. There should be legislation to compel dairymen and farmers to allow cows to be dry for three months of the year, and that healthy stables be provided for them.

4. The existence of tuberculosis among domestic animals (dogs and cats) is not uncommon, and should be looked after.

5. Finally, strict obedience to hygienic laws should be especially enjoined on those who by previous disease or family history may be deemed predisposed.