

be and that correction was possible. As a result of her efforts the corporation has not only fully complied with the law, but bettered the instructions of the state statutes. The company employs five physicians where it had but one; it employs nurses to help the physicians; it has changed the conditions of work where dust menaces health. It has furnished respirators and instituted a system of medical examination. It has fully conceded the wisdom of taking measures for the prevention of sickness and accident, and welcomes suggestions for further improvement.

Not all stockholders are as influential as Mrs. Bowen, but what she has done so completely others can do less completely. As Dr. Hamilton says, her success shows that officers and managers are reasonable and just men, and that when facts are called to their attention in a rational, business-like way they will do the right and expedient thing.

The Poison of Malaria.

Usually the poisons secreted by microscopic germs cannot be produced without their aid in the chemist's laboratory. The announcement in *The Journal of Experimental Medicine* that Dr. Wade H. Brown of the University of North Carolina has identified as hematin, which can be artificially produced, the pigment secreted by the parasite of malaria, is unique. Dr. Brown extracted from the red blood corpuscles of the rabbit, the dog, and the ox, solutions of hematin which, when injected into the veins of a rabbit, were followed by the classical symptoms of ague, fever and sweating, which have been observed for centuries in malarial patients. The advantage of being enabled to make pure extracts of the poison is that definite amounts may be injected into animals used for experimentation, affording an exact basis for the observance of symptoms and the study of the degrees of tolerance they acquire to its action. Not inconceivably, a specific more potent than quinine in destroying the infection, and more harmless to the patient, may be evolved as a result of such experiments.

Quinine and quicksilver are the only specifics for diseases discovered in the his-

tory of empirical medicine. That there may be more than one specific for a disease has been recently proved by Prof. Ehrlich, who has provided by deliberate experiment, and with sure prevision, a more efficient substitute for quicksilver in an important group of blood diseases. Quinine cured the Countess El Cinchon in 1640. A killer of the malarial protozoa, less harmful to the human tissues than quinine and more deadly to their parasitic enemy, as dynamite is more destructive than spears and javelins, may now be perfected to supersede the remedy found by chance.

Public Health Education.

Enlightened public opinion is the most potent force toward better public health and sanitation. Physicians will succeed in their campaign for prevention of disease in proportion to the understanding of the value of health measures by the public and its co-operation to secure them.

The Journal of the American Medical Association recently commented on the desirability of more co-operation between physicians and churches in public health education. The Men and Religion Forward Movement, which has caused a nationwide sensation, has not restricted its activities to purely religious matters. Various social problems have been attacked; for example, a careful analysis of conditions in various cities that resulted in recommendations for improved sewerage and quarantine systems, protection of milk-supply, organizations of health departments, better opportunities for harmless recreation, improved garbage collection, etc.

In many cities excellent results followed the work. The fundamental basis was a survey of actual conditions, that is, the tabulation of all the ascertainable facts in the case before taking action. This is merely touching on the medical phase of this movement. Its chief work, of course, was religious, but the movement seemed to attack the human problem in all its ramifications—spiritual, social, physical—and to recommend improvements wherever it was thought wise.

It is evident that the element of public education on health conditions is working. Great improvements in the sanitation and