

quarantined in their homes, lodgings, or apartments, the same as the sick and other people are quarantined for diphtheria, small-pox, scarlet fever, etc. A placard should be placed on the door, and quarantine should last for one or two weeks.

A quarantine law would have a beneficial effect upon Classes Three, Four, and Five. For persons of Class Six, a quarantine of four to six weeks, upon their first offence, would sober up most individuals, particularly if the law was stringent in the matter of supplying liquor, or the breaking of quarantine. For those a fine or jail would act as a deterrent.

By the time a new generation had been born and reared, the educational advantage of such a quarantine plan would be appreciable.

As no plan for dealing with the liquor traffic has, as yet, received wide and general application, the laws being diversified, quarantine of the drunks offers a solution of the problem never yet advocated, and one which should commend itself not only to total abstainers, but to moderate drinkers as well. The latter class, very often a predominating class in every community, hold the key to the situation, and should at least meet the out-and-out temperance people half way. If the medical officer of health were given power also to quarantine a hotel, saloon, or liquor shop for a period of two weeks or a month, upon satisfactory proof of selling to men already drunk, it would teach bartenders and proprietors to more readily recognize the pre-alcoholic stage of drunkenness.

In the past two decades, the value of the medical officer of health to any community has advanced by leaps and bounds. Smallpox and the other communicable diseases, as well as typhoid fever and tuberculosis, have gradually come under his administrative jurisdiction. Compulsory notification of disease has been gradually required. Now the social diseases are being tentatively included. Why not the great social evil which has held the boards for many generations as first and most important? There is nothing being done to prevent insanity although alcohol is claimed to cause at least fifteen per cent. of all insane. Here is the opportunity to prevent many from going insane! In this direction lies the opportunity of preventing drunkards. The very fact that a man was going to be quarantined for being drunk and isolated from his friends and his house placarded for a period of time, would act as a strong deterring force in lessening drunkenness.

The medical officer of health defends us from bad foods, bad water, bad milk, why not from the bad alcoholic beverages? Is