to the more or less inevitable infection. A point also to be considered here is the recent conclusion of a distinguished biometrician, "that the diathesis of pulmonary tuberculosis is certainly inherited, and the intensity of inheritance is sensibly the same as that of any normal physical character yet investigated by man." Statistical inquirers, however, do not satisfactorily allow for the greater opportunity of infection for the descendants, nor, in upholding the influence of the inherited diathesis, is the mortality in direct proportion to the density of population explained.

Some idea of the magnitude of the tuberculosis problem may be deduced from such observations as those already discussed, but it is hardly possible to estimate even roughly the actual amount of sickness caused by tuberculosis in any population. Because of certain features of civilized life there is a fairly even distribution of the disease in civilized lands, very little influenced by climatic differences, but with local variations proportionate in the main to the relative density of population. It is evident that the disease is enormously frequent in any civilized community, affecting at some time almost everybody, but it by no means follows that what may be regarded as a biological implantation will in all instances give recognizable clinical manifestations. Considering the foregoing statistics, Prof. Osler's estimate seems fully conservative when he says that comparatively few people reach fift years of age without a focus somewhere of tuberculosis, and that if even only 50 per cent. develop this focus, the number who may become seriously diseased is enormous.

Man is everywhere the great infective agent for man, but this must not let us lose sight of the fact that notwithstanding the small percentage of all cases that are actually due to the bovine form of tuberculosis, one-fifth of the tuberculosis in small children is due to this cause. From the statistics of tuberculin reactions obtained from the Veterinary Director General, tuberculosis may not seem to be highly prevalent in Canadian cattle, as only 10 per cent. react, but a high authority on veterinary matters in Ontario considers that 25 per cent. is a very conservative estimate of the incidence of tuberculosis in Ontario dairy herds. This estimate, as one might reasonably expect, is not very far from that of the incidence in cattle in the Eastern States.

It is a familiar matter that the greatest loss of life due to tuberculosis occurs in the working age period, and the actual number of deaths, and the proportional mortality, are highest in young adult life. In Canada 40 per cent. of all deaths occurring between