

judgment in diluting. This is true, but it is no justification of the manufacturer who states that the product will be 'a rich cream,' etc."

Corn Oil in the Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Dr. John Ritter, Instructor in Medicine, Rush Medical College, Chicago (*The Journal of the American Medical Association*, July 4, 1908), advises the use of corn oil in tuberculosis. "In making starch the corn grain is steeped until the kernel is softened, and the germ has assumed a tough elastic condition. The warm steeping water is run off, the grain washed and then shredded apart and coarsely ground. This usually suffices to loosen the germ from the rest of the grain. The magma is now placed in tanks of rinsing water, in which the starch granules settle rapidly to the bottom, while the light germs float off from the top. These germs are then washed, dried, ground, and the oil removed by hydraulic pressure. The oil as obtained is very easily refined and clarified, by placing the expressed oil in large air-tight containers for a definite time, when the albuminous matter subsides, or the subsidence of the albuminous matter may be hastened by the addition of an inert insoluble earth, such as kaolin, decanting the clear oil and filtering." As the cost of corn oil is low, as it does not cause the disagreeable eructations which usually follow the taking of cod liver oil, and as it equals cod liver oil or olive oil as a tissue builder, Dr. Ritter thinks that corn oil should be favorably considered by the profession.

A Department of Health, or a National Health Commission.—The editor of *American Medicine*, June, 1908, contends that those who have been urging the establishment of a National Department of Health in the United States have made a tactical error. The Republican machine is opposed to any new departments or any additions to the President's official family. President Roosevelt has gone on record as opposing a Department of Health. In the face of these obstacles to the establishment of a Department of Health, it would have been wiser to have worked for a National Health Commission. This Commission might be composed of three members—a chemist, a sanitarian and a physician—and the work of the Commission could be divided into three divisions—a division of sanitation and quarantine, a