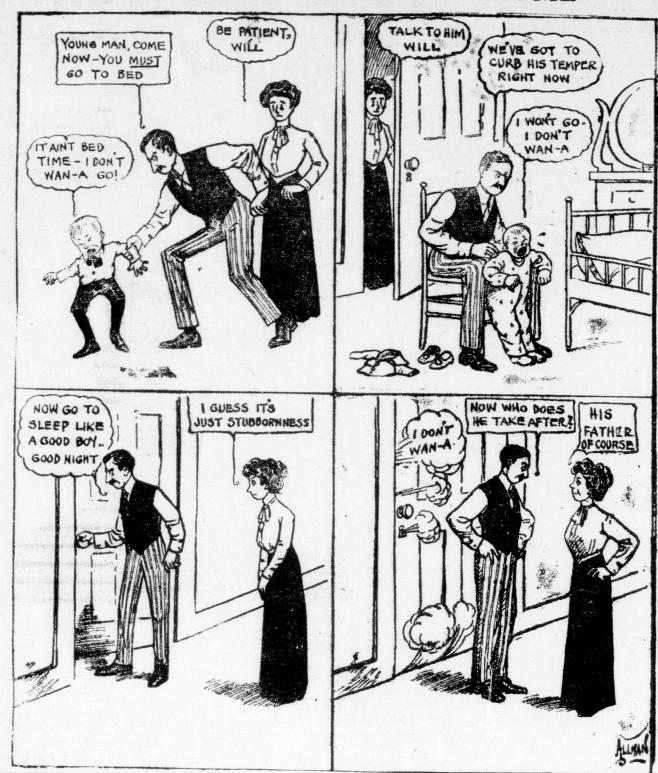
THE GREAT CANADIAN HOME



THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH

QUESTIONS. ANSWERS. Conducted by Institute of Public Health, London, Ont

Questions should be addressed "The New Public Health," care The Advertiser, London, Ont." rivate questions accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, will receive private answers. Medical treatment for individual cases cannot be prescribed.

TRAVELLER.

, is the common drinking cup a menace to public health? Are people running a risk drinking the water in shining up the case to set it going?

one of the many methods transmitting the discharges one mouth to another mouth; estimate accurately the importance of this method of transmitting discharges as compared with other methods, it would be necessary to know the average number of times that mouth discharges are handed about every day by all the methods, and then to see what proportion of these exchanges depended on common drinking cups. But as we cannot do that, we must consider the question in the light of the best common sense, taking into account what we do know in a general way about the trans-1 (Contracted out of town, 10 per cent.) mission of infectious diseases.

From the best estimates we can make, it is probable that the average devoted themselves to securing a pure population has at any one time about one person in every four or five hundred who is capable of transmitting some one of the ordinary infectious diseases to others; the mouth dis- the 10 per cent, from water and about charges as well as the other discharges of such persons are usually cases, leaving 85 per cent. untouched!

That means that there are usually London in any one day about one the discharges from their mouths. As things are now, the exact set of people eases changes more or less from day to trouble. In tuberculosis, for instance, when one advanced case dies another early wase becomes "open" and takes the place of the one who died. There are probably about fifty to seventy-five much disease the common drinking ducing tuberculosis in this way. These persons remain infective for an average

is dangerous diseases very much. period to four months, although occasionally much longer periods have been known. I myself knew a woman is to carry individual cups with them; germs for at least five years, probably glass to drink from.

Now the risk that you may some day shake hands or talk face-to-face with one of these one hundred or so dangerous persons is probably much greater than the risk that you will drink from the same cup one of them may have railway companies are very careful tuberculosis to his hogs; hogs used, without rinsing it. At the same about such matters, others are not. are fed on skim places and use a great many public drinking cups, or if, as in a school, You use the same drinking cup as other people do day after day, it is likely that sooner or later you will take your drink just after a dangeraus person has done so. Of course, you must not forget that you may be a dangerous person yourself.

For these reasons, the common drinking cup is more or less dangerous, although I do not think that abolishing the common public drinking cup would reduce our ordinary infectious diseases over 5 per cent., if so much.

There is no more interesting or important subject in Public Health than the question suggested here that is, what are really important Public Health measures to take?

The only way to answer this question is to trace out the really important routes which infection takes from one person to another. There is no Public Health advantage in insisting on pure ice for instance, if ice does not carry any disease, for you certainly cannot reduce a risk that does not exist at all!

There is no Public Health advanrooms after diphtheria or scarlet fever, if such rooms do not carry diseases any more than there is painting a house to fire-proof it, or scrubbing a ship to keep it from sink- the water impure than is the ice itself.

If your watch has a mainspring broken, what earthly sense is there in railway cars, etc.? TRAVELLER. If your auto has blown out a tire, will oiling the magneto help? If the brake ing for tuberculosis in will not hold, would you suggest think it is necessary? varnishing the carburetters as a remedy? Should Public Health be a serious scientific business, or merely a Hanlon's Superba with the wit and humor left out?

To illustrate, in the case of typhoid fever, D. D. Jackson, a noted investigator, recently examining into the classifies the cases thus contracted: Through milk, oysters,

raw vegetables Through water supplies 10 Through flies, etc. Through contact 45

Suppose, without knowing these figures first, the people of Cleveland water supply on the ground that ty phoid was always a water borne disease? That would cut down their typhoid about 15 per cent, all told, i. e. 5 per cent., secondaries from water

Suppose the citizens had the fly craze and suppose they abolished every foundred persons going about, who are fly, neglecting the other factors, they capable of giving some one of the in- would then reduce the disease about fectious diseases to others through 45 per cent., thus leaving over half of it untouched. Now knowing all the capable of giving these infectious dis- factors, they can abolish all of the

> So your question of the common drinking cup cannot be answered accurately, for we have no means of a styphoid-infected will not reduce any of our infectious

The proper thing to do, for thirsty people, at least for those people who prefer individual tooth-brushes, or to wait until they can get a clean

As for railway-car water, the dangers apart from the common drinking cup, lie in the source of the water, and W. H. HILL.

FARMER.

There seems to be a difference of opinion regarding the value of testing for tuberculosis in cattle. Do you FARMER. Answer .- I presume you mean the tuberculin test for tuberculosis cattle.

There are really three questions involved: first, is the test reliable? second, what is the value of knowing a cow is tuberculous from the owner's standpoint? third, what is the value causes of typhoid fever in Cleveland, of knowing a cow is tuberculous from the Public Health standpoint? The ourth and most important question is, what are we going to do about it?

First as to the test itself. It consists in injecting into the cow (or bull) tubercle bacilli. If tuberculosis is present in the animal, the animal will ever passes off in a day or two and the animal is all right again. Curiusly enough, very advanced cases may ot react; but this makes little diference for such cases are readily recognized by other means as a rule. The beauty of the tuberculin test is that it detects tuberculosis in the early stages, that is, at a time when it could not be detected otherwise, and that means detecting it before it has done harm, not after the harm is done! The farmer who trusts to detecting tuberculosis by the appearance of the cow, loss in weight and other such sympcoms cannot detect the disease until dangers to consumers of the milk from

those cows continues. The ordinary cattle of most civilknowing in accurate figures just how ized countries were found so full of tuberculosis when attention was first would not allow anyone to go to church cup carries. It undoubtedly carries directed to this method of testing them so long as I refuse to allow them to some, but perhaps a small percentage that it became a serious financial have the whist drive. I have offered one-and-a-half years each. On the good thing, its abolition certainly the tuberculin test is now required, only, and although to abolish it is a question and in the many places where to let them have the schoolroom free

for the animals found guilty. What is the benefit to the farmer of the tuberculin test? Principally this -he eliminates the diseased animals, whose average length of life, and weight while they are alive, is lower than that of the healthy animals; contracting the disease; tuberculous in the hands that go into the water, bulls will infect a whole herd of cows when the tank is being filled or when and calves. Moreover the farmer The dirty hands that drop the ice into are very susceptible to the disease, the tank are far more likely to make so much so that in some states, milk

TWILL NEVER BE MISSED. Tapen The Sta

"I took a mouthful of sand from that last bunker." "Never mind; it won't be missed."

hogs. (The humans can have it raw, so far as the law goes!)

What is the benefit to the consumer? A great deal of uncertainty and dispute arose on this question, because of ing that form of tuberculosis from the old belief that human tuberculosis drinking infected milk, i.e., it means came largely from cattle: on the other hand, those interested in the cattle cattle and hogs; but also in the far in humans came from cows at all! As a matter of fact, modern and most painstaking investigation has child any cow's milk that is not boiled shown that the germ of cattle tuberculosis, although not the same as the give your children is not from tubergerm of human tuberculosis, will grow in some humans, and produce certain forms of tuberculosis; also that the germ of cattle tuberculosis grows, practically speaking, only in children of sixteen years old and younger; and finally that the cattle

Now, because tuberculosis of glands, oones, joints, or indeed of any other part of the body, is practically speaking, non-infectious unless the lungs also be affected (and then only or chiefly in the later or "open" stages) it is evident that the cattle tuberculosis germ, passed on to the human consumer in the milk of the tuberculosis cow generally, may indeed affect the consumer, but is very unlikely to be passed on from that consumer to anyone else. These characteristics are in strong contrast with those of real human tuberculosis, for the latter disease affects chiefly persons over sixteen, and particularly the lungs: the latter fact

intended for hogs must be sterilized explaining why human tuberculosis of before being used for feeding the all kinds come chiefly from cases of lung tuberculosis in the human, i.e. from consumptives.

As a matter of fact then, tuberculin testing of herds, properly done excludes the danger of children contractthe abolition of cattle tuberculosis in denied that tuberculosis less important (!) human child.

There is another way to achieve the same end and that is never to give a or well pasteurized. If the milk you culin tested animals, the only safe thing to do is to boil or pasteurize it There is one thing to remember, the tuberculin tested "tested") is free of tuberculosis. The test has nothing to do with securing

milk that is pure in any other directuberculosis germ generally produces tion. A great many people unfortunn the human gland, bone or joint ately, suppose that if a cow or herd tuberculosis, seldom, if ever, lung is free of tuberculosis, it is free of all other dangers. There are a great many other things necessary besides the tuberculin test to make a dairy milk fit to give children; but on the other hand, a herd may be cared for splendidly and the

milk produced may be "clean milk,"

up to the best standards in every way

yet if it comes from tuberculous cows it is a "delusion and a snare." The tuberculin test is the first step to take in securing a good milk supply, but it is only the first step and therefore is not very important if it goes no further. You cannot read or write very successfully if you have learned the alphabet only as far as

A Rural English Rector's Troubles

the letter A!

[Special Correspondent of London News and Leader.] [London News and Leader.]

In the pleasant village of Yelling, some eight miles from Huntingdon, there has arisen a case of incompatibility of temperament that has its tragic no less than its humorous side.

The rector of Yelling, the Rev. T. Elms Fisher, is at loggerheads with cannot say definitely. nearly everybody, so far as I have been able to gather, in this little parish of two hundred and forty souls, and for a number of Sundays past his devoted wife has had to enact the roles of bellringer, choir, and chief part of the congregation.

It is not quite true to say that she lone was the congregation last Sunday, for she herself asserts that she was one of seven, but nobody questions the fact that, as a body, the parishioners and church workers have deserted the gray old church that has stood upon the greatest height in Huntingdonshire for the past 800 years. In the cool of this delightful summer

vening I met the rector and his wife, rambling with apparent contentment more admiration than he had ever asalong a pretty lane. It needed but a pired to little conversation, however, to find that the brave face they are putting on things is really a mask. "I have one great consolation in it

said Mrs. Fisher, who is a German lady, as, her eyes brimming with tears, she put her hand upon the rec- engagement in China. tor's shoulder, "I have a husband of whom I am very fond and proud." Origin of the Trouble,

man, who has held curacies both in the east and west of London. I am told by parishioners that the present trouble has really arisen because of his dogmatic manner, and in the course of conversation he himself admitted that what he regards as the immediate cause of the present desertion does not explain the more or less open atabout one-third of a teaspoonful of tacks that have been made upon him uberculin, which is an extract from practically ever since he came to the village from St. Augustine's, South Kensington, in March of last year, react," i.e., give certain signs of That immediate cause, according to the ever, etc., easily recognizable. This rector, was his refusal both before and shortly after Christmas to allow a whist drive to be held in the schools in order that a debt upon the cricket

club might be paid off. "I refused permission," he told me "partly on the ground that it is illegal at present and partly on the ground that considering the nature of the parish it would only lead to making money by card playing, and would ower the character of the place irrerievably. I also got the opinion of Mr. Rowley, the principal magistrate of St. Neots, and he wrote me that it was uite true one of the London judges had said whist drives were illegal, and t has far advanced, and meantime the that if I gave permission and anyone nformed the police the police would have no alternative but to prosecute. The result was that two of the principal persons in the village said they for a dance and to subscribe towards compensation is made to the farmer the cost of refreshments, but they refuse to be satisfied with that."

Sincere and Impulsive. Whatever be the cause, it is quite lear that the rector and his wife are aving anything but a happy time. Last Sunday his gate was smeared with a foul substance. He alleges that he has healthy calves cannot be brought up been assaulted, and I have been shown by tuberculous mother cows without an anonymous letter sent to the mother of a Fulham girl who left the rector's service because of her treatment in the village, which is certainly a cruel and disgraceful communication, and which warns the mother than an alleged attempt to assault her would be repeated. To me the rector, who is a thorughly sincere and good-humored, but should judge, a somewhat impulsive man, made statements which tend to bear out the allegation that he has been keeping a very close eye upon the do-ings of individuals. He is exceedingly strict in his judgments of morality, and his opinion of the village upon this head is not flattering.

A prominent villager, one of the genlemen mentioned by the rector as a leader in the dead-set against him, assured me that the reverend gentlman's interference with the local notion of the propriety of flirtation upon the village bridge had set a number of families by

Psychological Point of View "It's a curious thing," says the rector, "that three Sundays in the month preach at Toseland, two miles away, efore the Yelling morning service, to which I return on my bicycle and that there I always get nice, reverent, wellconducted congregations. But I have been warned about the quarrelsomeness of the Yelling people. My wife has done all she can in the way of entertaining the parishioners, but there's omething in the people themselves that you can't explain. From the psychological evolutionary point of view there may be something in the intermarrying that has gone on in this very old village. There are ten differ- take notice.

Resentment Over Whist Drive— ent families in this small population with only two surnames; there are four others with only one name."

The rector calls himself a moderate high churchman, but thinks there may have been some prejudice against him because he came from the very high church of St. Augustine's, South Kensington. Then he is a Tory, though not an active one, and he considers that the action of the county council in appointing him as school manager after the parish council had declined to have him before he was known personally to the parishioners may have affected his position. But he really It is denied in the village that there

is anything political in the antagonism to the rector. One gentleman to whom I spoke denied any knowledge of organized horseplay or shouting. "But," he added in the next breath, "they won't give him any peace till he clears out. You can take that from me." I left the rector and his wife in their placidly rural garden as brave a pair of souls, wrong-headed or not, as are

A WONDERFUL JUGGLER

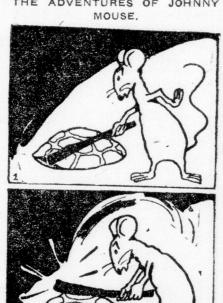
to be found in Huntingdonshire

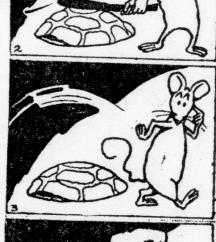
Oftentimes musicians complain of lack of appreciation, but here is a pleasant instance of one who won

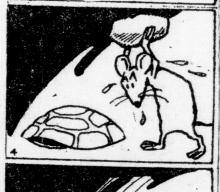
A Chinese Minister in Washington went to hear the Marine band play. Particularly was he impressed with the trombone player; so much so, fact, that he offered him a handsome

"I have never seen a juggler," said the visitor, "who could swallow as much brass as you and spit it out The rector himself is a breezy Irish- again, and yet the people here regard It with an utter lack of enthusiasm.'

THE ADVENTURES OF JOHNNY











Well, he made the turtle sit up and

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RECKONING AGES.

Gladstone, when a boy, was visitwas showing him around. Coming to "There's a fine, strong bull there,

Master William, and it's only two years old.' "How do you know its age?" queried he boy.

"By its horns," said the farmer. "By its horns?" Young Gladstone looked thoughtful a moment, then his face cleared. "Ah, I see. Two horns TURN HIM AROUND.

As William Faversham was having ing in the country and the farmer his luncheon in a Birmingham hotel he was much annoyed by another. a field that contained a large black visitor, who during the whole of the bull, the farmer said: warming himself and watching Faversham eat. At length, unable to endure it any longer, Mr. Faversham

rang the bell and said:
"Waiter, kindly turn that gentleman around. I think he is done on that

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