

tality is greater in the West than in the East, greater in cities than in the country, greater in cities surrounded by grain-growing districts, greater in proportion to the number of distilleries, and greater in proportion to the use of swill food. The healthy city of Milwaukee, where we would think our children should be sent to avoid the enervating effect of high summer heat, looms up with an infant mortality of sixty-one per cent."

ARSENICAL POISONING.—The Council of the Society of Arts (*Med. Times and Gaz.*) having had their attention directed to numerous cases of reputed poisoning by arsenical wall-papers, and other articles in general household use, have appointed a Committee to inquire into the practicability of preventing the employment of arsenic in any process by which it is allowed to remain in finished goods, and to obtain evidence as to the effect of a total prohibition of the use of such processes, or the prohibition of the sale of articles produced thereby, would have upon various trades. To promote the object in view the Committee has issued a circular to manufacturers of colours, dyers, and others using colours in manufacturing processes, asking for information on certain specific points. One of the questions propounded in the circular asks whether any disadvantage would accrue to the manufacturer through a prohibition of the use of arsenic; but in any case the greater safety of the community at large is the main point to be insured.

NEUTRAL CHROMATE OF LEAD IN PASTRY.—(*L' Union Med.*) M. Personne, at a late meeting of the French Academy of Medicine, called the attention of the members to a new adulteration made use of by confectioners in the manufacture of cakes. This consists in the employment of the neutral chromate of lead, instead of eggs, to produce the golden yellow color of certain pastries and cakes. Suspicion was first excited by the exceedingly bright yellow shade of a certain confectioner's goods, a sample of which having been analyzed, was found to contain 73 milligrammes of oxide of lead in a 100 grammes weight of the article.

DISEASED MILK.—An eminent English chemist, says an exchange, recently read a paper before the London Chemical Society, in which he stated that the examination of a large number of specimens of milk had disclosed the fact that cows might be suffering from acute