

ease and material comfort were realized. Public health was improved and mortality from tuberculosis diminished; thus, naturally lowering the total death rate in which phthisis counted for a fifth or even a fourth.

In England the movement for house sanitation and better domestic hygiene was begun many years ago, but it can easily be seen that it is a consequence of the promulgation of the "Public Health Act of 1875." The disappearance of unhealthy houses in towns brought about the disappearance of the overcrowded back yards, lanes and alleys, and these houses were replaced by new ones built between yards and gardens in such a manner as to give air and light to the rooms and ensure the permanent aeration of the houses. Millions of pound sterling were thus spent and, as Sir R. Thorne wires, the work is not yet finished.

If, however, the death rate from phthisis has diminished in England, the mortality from abdominal tuberculosis in children under one year has increased 27 per cent. since 1850. For over 50 years the English have used every effort to make their homes, workshops and cities more healthful by destroying every chance of infection through the respiratory system, which is the chief channel for the propagation of the disease in the adult, but they have done little or nothing to prevent infection through the digestive tract, which is the commonest way of acquiring the disease in children brought up on the bottle. Sir Richard Thorne writing in 1901 does not hesitate to attribute the increase of tuberculosis in very young children to the absence of all supervision over dairies and to the want of laws forbidding the use of milk from tuberculosed cows. All those who have studied the milk question agree with this expert. Similar improvements with respect to air and lighting have been carried out in connection with large manufacturing establishments, schools, etc. The system of co-operative societies has increased the welfare of the laboring classes. They can now live in comfortable houses and enjoy better food. As to the children, their labor is subject to certain protective conditions. It must not be forgotten that in England the "poor rates" amount to no less than £24,000,000