

	<h2>Editorial Notes</h2>	
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The Typhoid Fly

The prevalence of typhoid fever among Europeans in India has been attributed to the agency of flies, since, year by year, outbreaks occur, which are most difficult, or impossible, to trace to a water-borne cause, the water supply being, in many cases, above suspicion.

During the Spanish-American war, investigation of the great prevalence of typhoid fever among soldiers, camped in the Southern States, showed that abundant opportunities existed for the conveyance of typhoid infection by flies, the insects visiting the latrines at one time and the men's tables at another. According to this view, flies picked up Eberth bacilli, which had been discharged into a latrine, and subsequently deposited them on food eaten by the soldiers. There would be a special danger of infection, if any of these typhoid flies were to drop into milk, which is an ideal culture fluid for the bacilli of Eberth. A few germs, washed from the body of one fly, may develop into millions within a few hours, and the person who drinks such milk will receive a large dose of typhoid bacilli, which may later cause serious sickness.

A brook, a river or a lake, receiving discharges from house sewers, furnishes typhoid germs, and flies in millions settle on the refuse that washes along the water's edge. Afterwards, these same flies enter neighboring houses, and wipe their feet on the food which the inhabitants of these houses eat, or on the faces of sleeping children. Thus, flies, which are carriers of typhoid fever, bring their cargo in contact with human beings. As a general proposition, it may be held, that typhoid fever cannot be got, unless the germs of that disease are swallowed, and one does not swallow the germs, unless they are deposited on the food