

ment of sanitary laws, yet we must avoid creating in the minds of the people an unnecessary fear which will work undue hardships on those afflicted. Nowhere can it be said with greater justice, that 'a little learning maketh mad,' for those who have learned that tuberculosis is a communicable disease, and have learned nothing more, have become frightened and are associating in their minds, tuberculosis with such diseases as small-pox. We must emphasize with equal, if not greater care, that tuberculosis is preventable. We must, furthermore, teach them how to prevent it, give full and explicit directions for the afflicted, and also for those who must care for him. The necessity of sunlight and fresh air should be emphasized.

"Another important field of work for our league is in caring for the afflicted poor. This is a necessary measure from the standpoint of prevention, and desirable from the standpoint of the humanitarian. As long as the poverty-stricken tubercular individual is compelled to care for himself, he will be forced to occupy unsanitary quarters, and will scatter infection about him either because of ignorance or because of a spirit of apathy. Since each patient, on an average, infects about one new one, and each careless one may infect several, it can be plainly seen that the care of the helpless poor bears a very important relation to the problem of prevention of tuberculosis, and, since hospital facilities are provided for those suffering from other diseases, it is but just that they should be provided for these.

"The Anti-Tuberculosis League could perform for the tubercular poor an act of mercy, render society a noble service and do itself a great honor, if through its efforts there should be established in our midst a system of dispensaries in the cities where those afflicted could come for advice and where those who suspect the disease could be examined while they are in a curable stage, and, further, if through its agency, there should be provided sanatorium facilities for those who are curable and hospitals for those in the advanced stage."

That the object of this communication may be more surely accomplished, attention is also called to a paper published by Beaver in the London *Lancet*, January 3rd, 1903, and summarized by the Journal of the American Medical Association. He denies the contagious nature of the disease, declares it is only rarely or indirectly infectious, protests against the hardships imposed upon consumptives, and sees the best hopes of good results from just such methods as can be pursued at home. Attention is called to the 'decrease of consumption