

What is the Real Cause of Consumption?

THIS is seemingly a question yet unanswered by scientific investigation. It may be that this definite knowledge would not enable physicians to fight the disease any better than is already done. The discovery of the North Pole may not bring practical results of any moment, but it may, and hence it is well to try again, as daring navigators are doing. So with tuberculosis. Someone may yet find the essential cause, and thus lead to inestimable blessing.

"A German physician, Dr. Robert Hessen, has recently published the results of his researches concerning the real cause of consumption ('Die wahre Ursache der Schwindsucht'), which he ascribes to the checking of the purifying function of the pores of the skin. In support of this theory he records some interesting facts," says the New York Nation. "Fresh air and out-of-door exercise are important factors in the prevention of this disease. For this reason in England 1500 persons in a million die of consumption, whereas in Germany there are 2000, and among the

Russian peasants 3500. The latter pass the winter wrapped in sheepskins, near a warm fire, and rarely if ever wash their bodies. Dr. Hessen further says that young women, who are employed in stores to show furs and walk to and fro all day in these warm garments, usually suffer from phthisis. This was also the fate of the English comedians who some years ago masked themselves in hides in order to represent animals on the stage. Although these plays were very popular, the mortality of the actors from pulmonary disease soon put a stop to them.

"Dr. Daniel Diehl, the chief physician of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company, states in his book of travels 'An Bord und im Sattel' that Patagonians and other tribes who go naked are never consumptive; and the Norwegian zoologist and Arctic explorer, Fridtjof Nansen, in his volume 'In Night and Ice,' asserts the same of the Eskimos, who always go naked in their huts. Only in western Greenland, where the natives have been converted to Christianity and persuaded by the missionaries to wear clothes, does pulmonary disease prevail."

Husband Died of Consumption—Four Little Children—Now Mother has the Disease.

MR. GEO. STANLEY, Lucan, Ont. :—"I am instructed by the Prov. Sec. to write you re getting a patient into the Free Hospital for Consumptives. This woman, Mrs. Carroll, buried her husband a couple of months ago from consumption. Dr. Banting in our town diagnosed her case consumption. She is the wife of an oil man who peddled oil round here in his wagon. She has four small children. There is a little village property mortgaged so that she has no means at her disposal. Kindly state by return mail the necessary steps to be taken, to get her under proper treatment in the Free Hospital for Consumptives." It is for such cases as this—only one of many—that Sir Wm. R. Meredith, Kt., Osgoode Hall, Toronto, and W. J. Gage, Esq., 84 Spadina Ave., Toronto, ask your help. He gives twice who gives quickly.

IN YOUR WILL

Remember the National Sanitarium Association, organized for the benefit of consumptives. The Association can legally receive any sum which may be given or bequeathed. The following form will serve :

I give, devise and bequeath to the NATIONAL SANITARIUM ASSOCIATION, in trust, to be applied to the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives, the sum of \$.....

All information furnished by J. S. Robertson, Sec'y-Treas. National Sanitarium Association, 28 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.