

germs and a person with acute tuberculosis of the lungs may expectorate as many as two or three billion bacilli in 24 hours. These germs are deposited in every place where consumptives go—on the street, in the bedroom, in the street car, in the railroad train. The expectoration soon dries up and the germs are blown into the air and inhaled into the lungs. All the germs do not produce the disease when inhaled into the lungs. This depends upon the susceptibility of the individual who inhales them. Some are inhaled by individuals who are able to resist the attack of the germs and they "fall by the wayside." Others are inhaled by persons who have not the same resistance and the germs get a lodging, "fall in stony places," remain dormant for a long time and when the system is run down from an attack of bronchitis, pneumonia, or pleurisy, or any debilitating cause, they then get their work in and the person becomes a consumptive. Statistics from *post mortem* examinations show that 25 to 50 per cent. of people who die from other causes than tuberculosis have the disease in a dormant state.

Again, there is another class of individuals who inhale the germs into the lungs, where they find a good soil to start in and they develop consumption which runs a rapid course.

Another common source of infection is from taking into the stomach foods containing the tubercular germs. The most common foods containing tuberculous germs are meat and milk. Meat, I may say, is not nearly so dangerous as milk, and as children are the ones who mostly drink milk, they are the most frequently infected with tuberculosis from this source. The fact that milk carries tuberculosis has been proved over and over again. Many instances might be cited in proof of the fact if time permitted. Prof. Kanthack, in 1898, in examining milk from the 16 different dairies supplying the University of Cambridge, found that nine of the samples infected guinea pigs with tuberculosis.

Owing to improved sanitary conditions in the larger European cities, the death rate from tuberculosis has been gradually diminishing, but the mortality of children suffering from intestinal tuberculosis has not diminished owing to the increased consumption of cow's milk. Another strong proof that tuberculosis may be traced to milk, is the fact that calves are free from tuberculosis at birth, and that before the end of two years 50 per cent. of some herds are tuberculous. Statistics collected from abroad of the post mortem examination of 610,000 calves showed that only 12 of them had tuberculosis. This shows conclusively that consumption is not a hereditary disease but an acquired one. It is not necessary to use any further examples to convince you that the germs of consumption are carried into the system through the lungs and stomach by inhaling the germ-laden dust and the eating of contaminated foods. Our duty in future is how to prevent this.

I may here quote from the *British Medical Journal* of May 20th, 1899, over two years ago, the opinion of its Ontario correspondent at that time, of the state of the work of preventing tuberculosis. He says: "We are making some progress in the right direction in Canada, but our municipal bodies are moving somewhat slowly. The Council of Toronto has been urged by the profession of the city to take certain steps towards the