

statistics the conclusion is drawn that if deaths from consumption and zymotic diseases have become less in England the gain has been balanced by an increase in deaths attributed to diseases of the circulatory system, the nervous system and cancer. That there is a close relationship between tuberculosis and diseases of the nervous system is a view which has already been sustained by several observers, among others Dr. Stevens, of New York, who wrote in 1897 that affections of the nerves and disorders of the senses—principally alterations of vision—are transmitted by tubercular ancestors. A child is not more tuberculizable than other children simply on account of the blemish in its ancestry, but is a candidate for all the neuropathic disorders and myopia. The undoubted increase of myopia on the one hand and insanity on the other—the number of patients in lunatic asylums having doubled during the past fifty years in England—are closely connected with the diminished mortality in youth and also the diminution of cases of pulmonary consumption.

With the development of sanitation in our municipalities the conviction must grow that special and accurate knowledge of the science and art of hygiene should be possessed by medical officers of health. So far no organized effort has been made to train sanitary officers, unless we accept the lectures and instructions given by professors of hygiene in our medical colleges. In the June number of the *Sanitarian* I noticed that the Council of New York University has set apart buildings near First Avenue, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Streets, for the use of a "School of Public Health," as provided by the law passed at the recent session of the New York State Legislature, and for which \$25,000 was appropriated for maintenance for the year beginning October 1st, 1899. It is proposed to promote public sanitation in various ways, especially to instruct properly accredited medical men and lay sanitary officers throughout the State in methods and appliances for the prevention of disease. The public will be instructed in sanitary matters by university extension work. It is expected that a hygienic museum will be established for all forms of sanitary appliances, and models in plumbing, ventilation, disinfection, heating, clothing, and other kindred subjects, to be open to the public.

In thus drawing your attention to what has been done by our neighbors, I earnestly hope that you, and all citizens who feel interested in a similar enterprise, will bring it to the notice of your representatives in the Ontario Legislature, and will urge the Government of this province to make an appropriation for the use of a "School of Public Health" in Ontario. The second portion of the progress of sanitary education could be carried into effect, even if a school were not immediately established. Already the public are instructed in science and philosophy by university extension work, and the delivery of lectures on sanitary matters during the winter season would easily fit in with and become a useful part of such a programme of university studies.