

lation and quarantine of every case of tonsillitis should be compulsory at an early date.

In addition to the recognized communicable diseases and infantile mortality, medical officers of health should begin to take into consideration preventive measures looking towards the lessening of tonsillitis, rheumatism, organic heart disease and pneumonia, as well as cancer. Whilst the good work inaugurated against smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, and infant mortality will continue to be prosecuted with the utmost vigor, the enormous loss of life through other sources must not be any longer neglected.

Gonorrhea, syphilis, and chancre are coming, but the public are scarcely ready for this step, whereas they would readily acquiesce in preventive measures involving the others.

"FROZEN FEET" IN THE SOLDIER

A communication based upon a large number of observations by himself and others has been made by an eminent French surgeon to the Academy of Medicine, Paris, on so-called "frozen" feet occurring among the soldiers in the trenches. It has been found that actual cold has been far the least important factor. They have occurred in conditions where the temperature has never fallen to freezing point. Still, these false "frostbites" have all the appearance of true ones, complete dropping off of the toes having taken place in some cases. They are true troubles of local nutrition through the constriction of the feet by the footgear, and were seen mostly in the French soldiers in consequence of the bandages used by them as puttees. The condition was aggravated by the dampness which caused softening of the tissues and shrinking of the bandages. Combined with this were the inadequately watertight boots, often too tightly laced. The Russian and German troops use waterproof and sufficiently loose footwear, and have thus been enabled to control these epidemics. Prevention of frostbites can be carried out by the suppression of bandages, loosening the laces, the application of fatty substances to the entire foot and leg—oiled paper or greased socks—whilst the soldier is in the wet trenches. In some cases removal of the boots twice a day acted well as a preventive.