

is irregular in his diet, exposes himself to cold and wet, is careless about his person and in countless other ways lays himself open to become infected. It is no doubt to the physiological evils that he endures and to the susceptibilities he has acquired for himself, that the mortality from tuberculosis is so great amongst those who are connected with the liquor trade. Temperance societies aided by by-laws against the adulteration of liquor or any laws regulating or restricting its sale and its use, will help wonderfully in our fight against the white plague.

The most important cause, however, in my opinion is pauperism. Although it is an undecided question as yet, as to the elements of poverty which are its efficient causes, yet pauperism with all that it entails must be regarded as the most potent predisposing factor in the development of the disease.

Pauperism acts in various ways. It may, for example, diminish the resisting powers of the individual through overcrowding, insufficient food, absence of sunlight, ventilation and cleanliness, habitation of damp and unsanitary hovels; insufficient clothing for protection against inclement weather, increase the chances of infection, etc.

From the point of view of united effort for the suppression of tuberculosis as a social evil, two nations have distinguished themselves, and I would say have attracted the admiration of the whole world, and the success obtained by them should serve as an example for other nations that have remained inactive in this matter. The countries I allude to are England and Germany, which have, within twenty years up to 1901, succeeded in diminishing their mortality from 18 to 13.6 per 10,000 of the population in England, and from 31.1 to 22.7 per 10,000 in Germany, and without having had recourse to the same methods of action. But if the means employed to obtain this end were to a certain extent different, both were directed to attenuating the common cause of tuberculosis, and this cause was certainly pauperism and neither nations hesitated to promulgate the necessary laws, and both made the necessary sacrifices for the proper execution of these laws. Considerable financial means were found to raise the poorer classes to a point where