

Dr. Pontoppiden told me that the compulsory examination of prostitutes, after being tried in Copenhagen for some time, had been abandoned. This step was partly owing to the efforts of people opposed to all such examinations, and partly to the fact that no examination, no matter how thorough, will enable a physician to give a certificate to a public woman that she is not liable to convey disease through sexual congress. In this clinic I saw an astonishing number of instances of the pigmentary syphilide in the usual situation, as a collar about the neck. In my own practice I see very little of this particular syphilide. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that I see very little of the early syphilis in females, of which the pigmentary syphilide is a symptom. Outside of prostitutes, most women who get syphilis acquire it from their husbands. As it is to the husband's interest to conceal the disease from his wife, it is either neglected or entirely overlooked in its early stages, and so it comes about that the specialist for diseases of the skin, in his private practice, sees most of the cases of syphilis in the female in the later stages of the disease, after the pigmentary syphilide has long since faded away.

Dr. Rasch, of Copenhagen, has an excellent service in the Commune Hospital, of both skin and venereal diseases. By far the most of the patients are venereal. The doctor told me that there is a law requiring all those having venereal diseases, applying for relief at the hospital, to be treated free of charge. This is a well meant effort to stamp out or control those plagues; but behold how it works: Because of this benevolent law sailors of all nations hasten to Copenhagen as being a good place to get free treatment. While in this city being cured it is not to be imagined that they are strictly continent, and no doubt many a case of infection is owing to them. This is one of the best instances I ever found of misplaced well-doing.

Dr. Rasch was treating psoriasis by painting the patches with pure coal tar. The tar should only be painted on, not rubbed in, as in the latter case it is apt to cause dermatitis. In other cases of psoriasis he was using chrysarobin locally, but in very weak dosage (1-1000).

While in Copenhagen Dr. Reyn kindly showed me the Finsen Institute for the treatment of lupus. With us in San Francisco lupus is a rare disease, as even in a large practice one may not meet with more than one or two cases a year. In the Finsen Institute, however, the patients are in crowds, with the disease showing itself in all sorts of forms, and on all parts of the