

against contagion. In some cases it seems to have checked the worst effects of the vice, but taken as a whole it must be pronounced a failure.

The reasons are the following: (a) The difficulty of securing proper medical examination. The best physicians will not stoop to such practice. The inmates of such places use every pretext to avoid examination. For example, one authority proves that more than 50% of the medical examinations which ought to have been made on the 4,000 women under regulation in Berlin during the years 1888 to 1901, were in fact neglected.

(b) Only the women are examined. A prostitute may acquire the disease immediately after she is certified as healthy. Or one, herself healthy, may pass on the disease from client to client.

(c) It is impossible for the examiners to determine in all cases whether prostitutes are infected or not. Dr. Prince A. Morrow, a great authority on such matters, says: "Now the law in requiring a prompt report from the examining physician as to whether or not a prostitute is diseased, **demands what medical science and skill are utterly unable to furnish.** While it may be comparatively easy to recognize the presence of acute gonorrhoea, these women, for obvious reasons, seldom practice their vocation with the disease in this stage. The vast majority of infections originate from chronic or latent gonorrhoea. When the disease is localized, in the deeper organs, the clinical evidence and bacteriological proof of its existence are exceedingly difficult or impossible to establish, and yet the disease may be actively contagious. The testimony of all specialists is concurrent upon this point, that in these cases it is impossible to determine with certainty the presence or absence of contagious elements. Nothing is easier than the diagnosis of syphilis in the active stage or secondary eruption; but syphilis is not a disease of continuous symptoms. In the intervals between the outbreaks, when the disease is in the contagious stage, there may be absolutely no evidence of its existence, yet there may be an explosion of contagious elements a few days thereafter." A physician of our own Province who is medical examiner for one of the segregated districts admitted that it was impossible to determine whether a prostitute were really free from a. sease or not, but defended his own action in certifying such people on the ground that he was only asked if there were any manifest symptoms of disease. A certificate on such grounds is worse than worthless.

(d) Medical inspection encourages men to frequent brothels with a promise of immunity which is illusory. Hence it facilitates the spread of disease. The experience of Breslau, as described by Dr. Stanislas Lapowski proves this: "The method of regulation was introduced in Breslau in a very scientific and Prussian manner. That means military regulation. Every prostitute was brought before the Department of Health, and if disease was not detected she received a certificate that she was well. The year after there was 13 per cent more gonorrhoea in Breslau than before the system was established. Why? Because every man asked for the certificate, and if he found it correct, he assumed there was no danger, and he got the infection. The main point is that the examination does not prove anything."

In Christiania, Norway, on the other hand, after the abolition of regulation, syphilis declined in frequency. The same, Bloch affirms, is true in London. The reason he gives in both cases is thrt men, now aware of the danger, keep away from prostitutes.