

to act as new foci of infection. Later reports show exactly the same condition of affairs.

In Canada no statistics are obtained on the subject, yet while the disease is much less prevalent than in older and more populous countries, there is no denying that bovine tuberculosis is alarmingly prevalent. I say alarmingly, because considering the fact of our absolute immunity from such cattle plagues as pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease and Rinderpest, and knowing that we have the healthiest cattle in the world, the existence of any contagious disease is subject for alarm. I have known of herds being decimated from Cape Breton to the Peace River by the introduction of a single diseased animal.

*How It Spreads Among Cattle*—A tuberculous animal, bull or cow, is introduced to the herd, the bacillæ are coughed up, provided the lungs be the seat of the tubercular formations. The sputum may mix with the food in the trough in front of the adjoining animal and thus be swallowed; it may dry on the hay, feed-box or boards to be inhaled; in the former case it may develop mesenteric tuberculosis, in the latter pneumonic or thoracic. It may be, if a cow, that other calves besides her own are fed on her milk, which containing the tubercular bacillæ, they become infected. If a bull, he may in the act of coition transfer the bacilli to the cow. No more frequent source of extensive spreading of the disease exists than tuberculous bulls. The calf is sometimes born tuberculous. I have seen cases where the placental membranes were studded by grape-like tubercles.

It is generally said to be hereditary—it is, but more frequently the calf contracts the disease from its tuberculous mother's milk or coughed up bacillæ. It is generally supposed that the milk will not communicate the disease to the calf if the udder is not tuberculous. This is an erroneous and a dangerous doctrine, and in connection with the communication of the disease by means of milk to mankind should be strongly rejected.

We have seen that it has been proved by experiment that this disease is readily communicated from consumptives to other animals, why not to cattle?