## DEPART. PHARMACOLOGY, WESTERN UNIVERSITY,

the race is fed, dressed, underessed NASDA, combed, cuddled, kissed, praised, blamed, led, driven, coaxed, taught, spanked, bossed and otherwise "brought up" by women—women mothers at home, women teachers at school. It is chiefly during this time of tutelage and supervision by women that children receive their infections; it is during this time that the race runs its gauntlet, dances its little dance with death—and pays eight billions for it.

Present Attempts.—To teach women, girls, prospective mothers, that they may practice in their household and in turn teach their children to war on invisible germ-foes is one of the functions of public health bacteriology. Only in the public schools can it be taught with emphasis, weight and uniformity enough to impress the masses. Only if taught in the grades can it be counted upon to reach the masses. Less than 1 per cent of the population reach the university, only 10 per cent reach the high schools. The great mass of the mothers of the coming generation, of the whole race, the mothers of more than their average of children, are receiving grade school education only. Need more be said?

The infectious diseases in general radiate from and are kept going by women. Women must learn to break up, divert, stop in some manner—in every manner—the exchange of infected discharges amongst children at school and amidst families at home if infectious diseases are to be abolished or abated under present conditions. The needful information, beliefs, technique and habits cannot be had or established except by studying the basic principles of public health, and this must be taught in the grades of the public schools if it is to reach those who most need it.

Radical Changes in Social Conditions the Real Solution.—If (as cannot be) every girl now at grade school could be thoroughly taught all that a trained nurse knows, theory and practice, the best to be hoped is that, becoming a mother, ten to twenty years hence, she may remember enough to care for, if she have the facilities, the first case of infection in her household without permitting its spread to the other members or to outsiders. Alas, not one third of the girls will remember, not one-tenth will have the facilities. Above all what shall be done in that intervening ten to twenty years? Lectures, writings, sermons, appeals to mothers' clubs, university extensions, moving pictures, all the publicity that can be had or hoped for, will not suffice to teach technique to the mother now