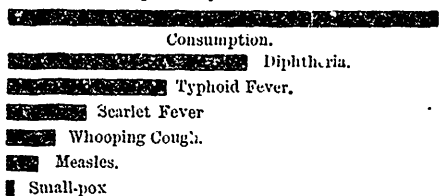


precaution in cases of infectious disease, and give timely warning to the sanitary officials for the protection of the public health.

THE "GREAT WHITE PLAGUE," is what an exchange aptly terms that ever present scourge, consumption. The accompanying diagram from the office of the Michigan State Board of Health represents graphically the relative number of deaths from various contagious diseases in Michigan, as compared with the deaths from consumption. In Ontario the proportion would probably be about the same :



About as many die of consumption as of diphtheria, typhoid fever, and scarlet fever combined. And yet how little effort, either public or private, is made to suppress this great white plague. While, when a case of small-pox is learned of by the authorities, there is "hurrying to and fro," and the "Mustering squadron" is put "Forward with impetuous speed."

THE PREDISPOSITION to consumption, especially that given by the contracted chest and hence want of vigor—particularly referred to by the Editor of this JOURNAL in a paper read by him at the recent meeting in Brooklyn of the American Public Health Association, and the infection of the disease, are two great points which should be attacked in our war against it. The infection from animals must receive special attention, as well as that from the human body. At the recent sanitary congress in Great Britain, Mr. W. E. A. Axon, in a paper, said : "Most important of all, there can now be no doubt that man may become the victim of tuberculosis from eating the flesh of animals infected with that disease." And again : "The undisputed fact that tuberculosis can be imparted to the human subject by the use of the flesh of cattle affected by tubercle is one of the greatest and gravest importance; for a large proportion of cattle have the disease."

QUITE RECENT EXPERIMENTS have been made by a German physician, Hirschberger. Milk was shown to be infectious not only when the tuberculosis of the cow had become general, or when the udder was affected, but infectiousness was often shown in cows with the disease

localized or in its early stage. In cows which were much emaciated, the milk was almost always infectious; when the animals were in good condition infectiousness was present in about thirty per cent. of the cases. Fifty-five per cent. of all the animals experimented upon (by injection of milk under the skin) contracted tuberculosis.

MR HASTINGS, M. P., President of the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain, at the eleventh Annual Congress, opened Sept. 27, 1889, in referring to the fruits of the proceedings of such associations, through the education of the people thereby, said : the Sanitary laws could be much better enforced by such means,—i.e. by the educational process, than by new legislation with the view of coercion,

THE EMPIRE of a recent date says :—"The prevalence of typhoid fever in Quebec has unearthed a story which, if true, ought to send the guilty person down among the criminals. A milk vendor's son had died of typhoid fever in the house from which the milk was sent, the well water had become infected it appears, and although the milk itself was pure, the milk vessels had been washed with the foul water. In eighteen out of twenty-seven families supplied by the milkman the disease broke out. It is but the 'old, old story,' rarely, yet, 'found out' in this Country, where general inspection and investigations into such outbreaks has not been practiced, but common in England.

"DOWN AMONG THE CRIMINALS" the milk vendor should be sent, if he were not entirely ignorant of the manner in which the disease might be spread. Inspection in this case might easily have prevented the outbreak, but as the Empire further says : "There are scores of unhealthy conditions which the closest inspection might unwittingly overlook, and where the conscience of the citizen must be trusted." Here is one case where the education we have referred to is indispensable. The citizen cannot be trusted unless he is possessed of at least the necessary knowledge of *how* to act. Hence, the great need of the education.

ANOTHER OUTBREAK of a similar character is reported in the last number of the British Medical Journal (Oct. 26). Eleven cases of typhoid fever occurred between Sept. 17 and 24, among the consumers of milk from a dairy of a farmer, six members of whose family had been down with the fever previous to the 17th of Sept. But a peculiarity in this case was that the Medical Officer, after a most careful investigation, was quite unable to account for the first outbreak of