

evidence exists that the regulations have not been strictly complied with. All milch cows in New York City (about 3,000 in number), are now being subjected to the tuberculin test, under the supervision of the Health Department, and animals found to be diseased are killed. It is proposed, as soon as this work is completed in New York City, to require similar tests to be applied to all cows whose milk is sent to New York City. There also exists a careful inspection of animals slaughtered for food, and of all meat sent into the city, and the carcasses of those found to be tubercular are destroyed.

Most beneficial effects have already resulted from the various measures instituted for the prevention of this terrible disease. Not only has there been a very material decline in the number of deaths occurring from it, but there has been a most gratifying increase of knowledge and intelligence as to its nature among the poorest class of the population. The inspectors detailed for this work report, that on their first inspection, in nearly one-half of the cases occurring in many parts of the tenement house districts of the city, it is found that more or less efficient precautions are being taken for its prevention. Such precautions are the use of rags to receive the sputum, which are later burned, instead of handkerchiefs; the use of cups containing water or a disinfecting solution; the separation of the clothing of the patient from that belonging to others, and similar measures.

This increase of intelligence, and the precautions resulting from it, afford the greatest promise for the future, of a persistent and still more rapid decline in the frightful morbidity and mortality caused by the tubercular diseases.

Investigations made by the Department, showing that the dust in the street cars and various public places is often infectious, led to the enactment of an amendment to the Sanitary Code prohibiting spitting on the floors of street cars, ferry boats and other public conveyances, and requiring that all companies should post in their cars, boats, &c., printed notices forbidding this. This regulation is very difficult of enforcement; but, while the results have been by no means entirely satisfactory, there has yet been a definite improvement in the existing conditions.

The method employed for recording and plotting cases of diphtheria is also used for cases of tuberculosis. I have had prepared transcripts from the maps on which are platted the cases of diphtheria and tuberculosis, to show the distribution of these cases in certain wards of the city. These wards have been selected in each instance because of the large number of cases of the respective diseases occurring in them.