

authorities or under their immediate supervision. It should be done free of charge.

A wise precaution on the part of the public would be to see that every house into which families move at the usual nomadic period of the year, be cleansed, disinfected and renovated if necessary prior to its being occupied.

Another good weapon in the battle against tuberculosis consists in the medical inspection of schools. This has two advantages, it impresses on the pupils themselves the precautions they should take to prevent the spread of the disease, and the necessity of taking care of their health and of being clean in their persons. It puts the examining experts in constant contact with sickly pupils and gives them the opportunity of reiterated observations, thus enabling them to detect the first symptoms of tuberculosis and to combat it before it has reached the expectorating stage. Medical inspection in schools has given such good results that it might be advised to extend the service to the large industrial institutions and factories. The services of physicians might possibly be utilized also as means of arbitration between employers and employees in regard to the hours of labor for persons subject to tuberculosis, in the interests of public health, and by preventing overwork, in the interests of the individuals themselves.

While bending all our energies to prevent the spread of tuberculosis, we must not overlook certain causes which in a large measure tend to favor its development, and which present us with serious, if not disheartening problems to solve, but which nevertheless must be bravely faced. These two factors are alcoholism and pauperism. I am not here to give you a lecture on temperance, I only desire to draw your attention to the fact that the immoderate and continued use of liquor has a disastrous effect on the vitality. It brings on a degeneration of the stomach, liver and lungs, which is followed by a like action in the other vital organs, it gives rise, therefore, to a certain diathesis or state of the system most favorable to the infection and development of tuberculosis. The drunkard lives in a constant state of mental aberration, in which he neglects all sanitary precautions. He