

DISEASE germs are enfeebled by a high temperature so that they no longer kill an animal with the same certainty and by inoculating first with a weak virus and then with one successively stronger and stronger, animals can be completely protected either from inoculation by the strongest virus or by infection from other animals suffering from the actual disease.

ANOTHER extraordinary fact is that the virus thus weakened so that it will not kill a guinea-pig a year old, and still less a sheep or ox, may again be rendered most potent by inoculating a feeble animal, such as a guinea-pig a day or two old, and from this older and stronger guinea-pig, the strength of the disease germs increasing with every inoculation, until finally sheep and cows may be killed by it. We can thus see how an epidemic of disease beginning by attacking the weaker individuals may gradually acquire such strength as to attack and carry off the strongest.

SEEING then what a very simple thing may decide the result of the struggle between the disease germs which gain access into a human body and the leucocytes (referred to on another page) which attack and endeavor to destroy them, it is of very great importance that the human body be kept always in the most healthy vigorous condition, and especially that during an epidemic, the utmost care be exercised in regard to habits of life.

DR. Adolph Seeligmuller, of Breslau, has discussed at considerable length (*Deut. Rev.*) the subject of universal nerve troubles. He says: Tobacco has come to be a national poison in many countries, and most especially in Germany. As sequels of chronic nicotine intoxication may be noted without fear of contradiction: palpitation and weakness of the heart; irregularity of the pulse, of which heart pang or *angina pectoris* is an acute symptom; general nervous debility; tremulousness; disturbances of vision, even to the point of blindness; and hypochondriacal depression even to the degree of melancholia. The fear-inspiring intermission of the pulse is a frequent cause of inveterate insomnia. That the children of smokers suffer frequently from nervous diseases is an established fact."

THE New York Medical Journal says in a recent issue: The tripod of longevity may be said to be a sound stomach, a warm domicile, and unruffled temper; these three parts working well together will sustain the traveler wonderfully during the last stadium of life's journey. Inherited vigor must, of course, be taken into

the account, as also the favoring circumstances of country life and the ability to employ the mind helpfully and cheerfully as age advances.

HEREDITARY influence is now stated mathematically in the following way; That the probable duration of a man's life may be known if the ages at death of his parents and grandparents are known, and that if these are added together and then divided by six, the quotient will be his approximate term of life. If the quotient exceeds sixty, one year may be added for every five; if it falls below sixty, one year should be subtracted for every five. The presumption in this proposition is that with good fortune a man may equal, but he may not hope to appreciably or much excel, the average of his parents' and grandparents' lives.

RELATIVE to reported cases of poisoning by canned salmon, a Dr. Murray of Gloucester place writes to the British Medical Journal as follows: I was summoned to a house in the neighborhood with a message that a whole family had been poisoned. On my arrival I found six persons in bed—a lad aged 12 years, three daughters and mother, and the cook. I ascertained that the patients had all partaken of tinned salmon for supper on the previous evening, and were seized towards early morning with violent pains in the stomach, sickness, and headache, with profuse diarrhoea.... Altogether, the symptoms pointed to irritant poisoning, and in the absence of any metallic poison being detected, the only explanation that can be offered is that death occurred from the presence of ptomaines.

IT HAS been urged time and again for years that, as canned meats will deteriorate and may become poisonous through change, with time, no matter how well they may be put up, all manufactures of such foods should be compelled to put upon every can the date upon which the canning is done. Consumers could then avoid the old goods.

SIR Peter Eade, M.D., &c., at the annual meeting last month of the British Medical Association said: A gentleman called upon me suffering from distinct but mild influenza. He traced his attack to having licked the gum of an envelope sent to him to be returned, in a letter from a correspondent, who wrote that he was suffering severely from the disease. He said that he immediately felt that he had done a foolish thing; and curiously enough in about forty-eight hours from this time he was seized with influenza.