

A further danger consists in the intermixture of linen for body and beds of the sick and those of healthy persons, and that the disinfecting of this linen by strong heat is not sufficiently provided for. In this linen, however, are found the conditions which give the germs their full infectious quality.

Added to it is the fact that all the places in which the tuberculous patients aggregate, influenza becomes easily epidemic and grows to be a Damocles' sword for the sick.

In the same rooms, in the same beds, with the infected linen live the natives out of the season and catch the disease.

In a country sanatorium to which I have given considerable observing attention, the female native population is to a remarkable extent, more exposed to the danger of infection than the male population, and especially the robust young peasant girls. This evidently arises from the fact that the tuberculous male guests, who are, as is well known, very libidinous, are listened to more favorably by the country lassies, than is good for their lungs.

The sanitation of the health resorts is, therefore, a pressing requisite. We will refer to this further on.

The next, as places of infection, are the hospitals. It is well known that in older hospitals there are always rooms which are not only dangerous to the patients, but also to the nurses and the physicians. It must be remarked that this not only refers to tuberculosis, but also to dysentery, Egyptian disease, typhus, etc. And here we again meet with the remarkable fact that such bad conditions continue for years, without that the authorities deduce the necessary conclusions and that the facts are guarded for a long time as an official secret.

Such poison-abodes are but too often the barracks, and next to them the prisons. Of course, it is not only the poisoning of the living compartments and assembly rooms which are detrimental, but also very often a guilty lack of proper nourishment. I know a prison in which the mortality decreased in one year by 12 per cent. as soon as a conscientious director assumed the provision regulation. Especially military prisons, and especially those located in casemates, often form expressoes to the other world, and in order not to make statistics too horrifying, candidates of death are frequently pardoned and sent to hospitals or to their homes. According to various localities condemnation to imprisonment for 1 to 3 years often means condemnation to death, and the axe is swung by tuberculosis. This is the more terrible as condemnations are not always pronounced for crimes, but for violations of discipline, and because many military criminal laws and especially the criminal codes are imperfect, and errors of justice are easily made.