

## THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH

### TENTH PAPER

#### THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH AND TUBERCULOSIS

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Previous articles have outlined the general principles which govern modern public health efforts. The present article will show the specific applications of these principles to one specific infectious disease, namely, tuberculosis. This disease is selected because the same principles that apply to all other infectious diseases apply to it and because it is the most important of all the diseases now recognized as really *preventable*, with the possible exception of the venereal diseases.

Tuberculosis, of all forms, is due to the growth, somewhere in the body, of a certain germ, exactly as diphtheria and typhoid are due to the growth, in the body, of certain germs. There are many very definite individual differences, in the size, shape, manner of growth, etc., of the three different germs of these three different diseases, and these differences make it perfectly possible to distinguish each germ from the others, just as any farmer can distinguish oats, corn, and potatoes from each other.

But just as there are different varieties of potatoes, so there are at least two varieties of