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FILTRATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

The quality of water for human consumption depends upon the polluting and purifying influences to which it has been subjected before reaching the consumer. It is well known that the general health of a community using a sewage polluted water gradually falls lower and lower and the death rate increases proportionately. Of the diseases most frequently following the use of an impure water, typhoid fever holds, at the present day, the most prominent position is the public eye. It is a curious fact, as yet unexplained, that the change from an impure water to a pure supply diminishes the sickness and death rate, not only from typhoid fever, but also from tuberculosis, pneumonia, and other serious diseases. It is also a fact that in certain cities using a sewage polluted water the death rate from typhoid fever is many times more than that for cities using a filtered water supply taken from the same source.

Generally speaking, there are two methods in use for the filtration of public water supplies; they are known as the "Slow