## THE CANADA LANCET.

Another reason is that it may attack any organ in the body. Hip diseases, Potts' disease, meningitis, intestinal troubles, ulceration of the lungs, caries of the bones, etc., are among its usual manifestations. One eminent writer has said if tuberculosis and syphilis were removed from the world the field of pathology would be vastly reduced and the work of the physician and surgeon markedly limited.

But another reason for this disease attracting so much attention is the fact that it is now admitted, the world over, to spread from the sick to the well. There are still differences of opinion as to whether it is spread by the air, or whether bovine tuberculosis can be given to man; but there is no difference of opinion that the sick infect the well, and that the sputum and discharges contain the infection. Here, then, lies the secret of successful prevention. Segregate the sick and destroy all infected discharges. Prevention is so much better than treatment.

Much has been said about the curability of tuberculosis. We know that many who have been infected at some time in the past have recovered; but we also know that when the disease has secured a fairly firm foothold it is most serious, and that the death rate is high.

The hope of a country lies in the proper training of her children. In this regard much is being done. Medical journals, lay newspapers, religious journals, books, school teachers, preachers, doctors, many associations and learned bodies, are all giving forth information to the public on preventive medicine. Each individual is appreciating more and more that good health is one of his most important assets. A sound mind in a *healthy* body has now come to have a new meaning.

We are glad to notice the growing interest that the church is taking in matters of public health. Hospital Sundays and tuberculosis Sundays mean much for the good of the country. But the Governments have not done their full duty as yet. They have, no doubt, been waiting for public opinion. They have that now, and the way is clear for action and a forward movement.

## THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

Some time ago an association called for the special purpose of dealing with this class of the community, after careful deliberation adopted a number of very important resolutions. Among these we may mention the following:—

"That the Legislature be memorialized to provide institutions for the care of the feeble-minded in Ontario, and that municipalities of the province be required to pay for the maintenance of their wards up to