

It may be taken for granted that if meat from animals suffering only from localised tuberculosis, is carefully handled and no infective matter smeared over it from the hands, knives, or saws of the butcher, is allowed to stand for a few days in a refrigerated chamber, and is thoroughly cooked, it can be eaten with impunity.

As a matter of fact tuberculous meat is frequently foisted on to the public and no bad results seem to follow, at least so far as is known. At the same time there is a certain danger from smearing with tuberculous matter, and from insufficient cooking; consequently it is clearly the duty of sanitarians to limit the sale of meat from tuberculous animals to cases of limited invasion and under very reliable supervision. The same remarks apply to pork in all its forms, but the danger from meat infection in pigs is even greater than in cattle, owing to sausages and hams being more frequently eaten under-cooked.

Tuberculous chickens are still more dangerous owing to the consumption of the giblets in which the tubercle may be concentrated. Fortunately, however, they are usually thoroughly cooked and raised to a temperature which kills the bacilli. Yet, reports show that chickens are not infrequently the means of infection in the human family, and while the chicken tubercle bacillus may not be identical with the human, yet the human bacillus will live and thrive in the organism of the chicken, producing tubercle, which, reintroduced to the human body will produce tuberculosis. The expectoration of tuberculous patients in poultry-runs should be absolutely prevented.

Rabbits. While rabbits contract tuberculosis when exposed to infection, the disease is unknown in them in the feral state, consequently, no apprehension may be felt in using rabbits as food.

While every conceivable precaution should be exercised to prevent the communication of animal tuberculosis from the food-yielding domestic animals to man, equal care should be exercised in preventing the communication of this disease from tuberculous people to these animals. Consumptive people are generally regarded as almost as dangerous to the health of cattle, pigs and poultry as are tuberculous cattle, pigs, and poultry to humanity. Here, however, mention must be made of Theobald Smith's recent observation that the bovine bacilli may be as much as thirty times as virulent towards the animals of the laboratory as are human bacilli.

Tuberculous patients, both human and brute should be isolated, and other people and animals protected against both direct and mediatory infection.

II

IS IT POSSIBLE AND PRACTICABLE TO ERADICATE TUBERCULOSIS?

I have frequently stated my belief that it is both possible and practicable to rid Canadian herds of this disease completely; and that by the