

We now get to the accumulation, the removal and the destruction of the sputa. We will return to this in the discussion of the reform of health resorts and sanatoriums.

The sweats should be removed by careful ablutions with a wet cloth—perhaps, as customary, with a solution of vinegar acids. These rags must be kept in a closed vessel and exposed to hot air.

To the measures of prevention also belongs the removal of the sick from their surroundings, especially in unfavorable conditions of dwelling and other social conditions.

This compulsory removal, must as in cases of insane and persons suffering from contagious diseases, be regulated by legal provisions. In order that it can be carried out, provisions should be made for the families of the patient upon whose labor they are dependent. When society replaces the value of animals that have to be killed, it is obliged to do so in respect to human families.

The preventive measures referred to also apply for the sanitation of the former mentioned birth places of consumption. But we are affrighted at the task of this sanitative measure. We stand here face to face, for which the science of the physicians is determinative, but whose power has little weight.

What great social revulsion and social activity is called for alone by the sanitation of the dwellings of the poor, which harbor yet destitution and misery? Here the friend of humanity must above all raise the call of general disarmament in order to receive the help of the colossal sums of military power for the regeneration of broad masses of the population. But how powerless are we physicians to fight. The chauvinism and imperialism of the nations who hinder it, that the less expensive philanthropic benevolence push away the more expensive hatred and the still more expensive lust for power.

Our activity becomes here a discouraging patch-work.

Our first duty concerns the sanitation of the health resorts. For this purpose it is at once requisite:

1. That the reception of consumptives in a private house be subject to a concession from the authorities, which must be preceded by a careful investigation of rooms and arrangements, and to the permission must be attached a definite hygienic regulation,—of which later on.

2. Every health resort for tuberculous patients must contain a hot water laundry, where linen, carpets, curtains, etc., can be exposed to the germ killing heat.

Altogether, care must be taken that the linen of the population, not only of the health resorts, be exposed to hot air, and the larger communities must establish hot water laundries in which—under the direction of the administrators of the poor, and the physicians of the poor—