

establishment of homes and sanatoria for the poor. Sanatoria for cases of incipient disease, and homes for advanced cases, where a cure is improbable. This is a duty devolving on the State. The State, through negligence, has been the means of allowing a preventible disease to have full sway. The State owes it to the victim of tuberculosis to help him to save his life, and the sanatorium treatment offers the best means of accomplishing this. In Germany, sanatoria for poor people afflicted with tuberculosis have been in use for several years. One of the best known is that at Goerbersdorf in Silesia. In 1899, 881 patients were treated at this place, the expenses in 774 cases being borne by insurance associations. The societies in which the German workman is insured consider it a wise policy to pay the expenses of those insured who have become tuberculous. They find this infinitely cheaper than allowing the patient to have his own way. This fact is a strong tribute to the good results obtained at the sanatoria. About three months is the period looked upon as being necessary to effect a cure, or rather to place the person in a position, that he can afterwards continue the treatment and do work at the same time. After a stay of three months, fully 75 per cent. were able to resume their work. The investigations made at this hospital into the duration of the good results of the treatment are most interesting and instructive. Of 200 patients treated during the year 1896, 89 per cent. were able to resume their work after their stay at Goerbersdorf ; but as a result of subsequent careful inquiries, only 56 per cent. could be ascertained to be at work in 1898 ; in the following year, 46 per cent., and in 1900, 40 per cent. were still in active work. Such figures are of great value in regard to the question of sanatorium treatment, and it is to be hoped that more will be forthcoming.

Homes for cases of advanced tuberculosis are urgently needed. Such cases rarely recover, but everyone in that state has a right to demand that they should have all the advantages that modern scientific medicine can bring to bear, not only in the alleviation of their sufferings, but in the possible arrest of their disease. Such patients (I refer to the incurable cases) are in a certain sense virtually prisoners, and suffer both mentally and physically as a result of their affliction. The least the community can do for them, is to ensure them all the advantages of proper treatment.

In this great question there is another important particular in which it is the duty of the government to step in, that is, the enactment of laws that will prevent those afflicted with tuberculosis from working at trades in which there is a danger of contamination of food and clothing. To go to the extreme of preventing the tuberculous from all occupation, would neither be practical nor wise. Whether it is practical or not to