

third of the houses in Fifth ward had been the seat of a death from tuberculosis, but that the infected houses were not scattered irregularly among the others, but were more frequently in groups, just as is the case in epidemics of small pox, typhoid, and diphtheria—an arrangement pointing to the spread of the disease from a patient to those in his immediate neighbourhood. Moreover, a large portion (33 per cent.) of the infected houses presented more than one case, and some had been the seat of seven or eight deaths from this one cause during the five and twenty years. Taking the deaths from tuberculosis in one year alone, Dr. Flick found that in this one ward of Philadelphia considerably more than half the deaths from tuberculosis occurred in those houses which had been affected during the previous twenty-five years. Now inasmuch as there were more than twice as many unaffected houses in this ward as there were affected we should have expected that the deaths would roughly have been twice as many in these unaffected houses. That would have been the proportion had he been dealing with heart or liver disease, for instance. That the proportion is reversed is only to be explained by the infectious nature of the disease.

Tuberculosis in the form of disease of the lungs, the bowels, and of the membranes of the brain is a most frequent cause of death in children. Of every thousand living beings twenty-four die of tuberculosis during the first year of life; indeed during the first two years of life according to one competent observer, out of every hundred deaths nearly forty are due to tuberculosis [this in North Prussia]. That this high death rate is largely brought about by the surroundings of the children, by their living in tubercular homes with consumptive relations, is shown by the statistics of orphan asylums. At Nuremberg, where the orphan asylum has four hundred inmates, only two or three deaths ascribed to tuberculosis have been recorded during eight years. At Paris the results are even more striking. There the *Assistance Publique* adopts all abandoned and orphan children and sends them into the country, finding healthy homes for them among the peasantry. A very large proportion of these orphans are the children of consumptive parents, one or both of whom have died in the