

Causes that increase the spread. The spread of diphtheria is favored by such insanatory conditions, as the contamination of drinking water, by leakage or soakage from drains, privies, sinks, and other places for the reception or carrying away of filth, into springs, streams, wells, or other sources of water supply. Also by the breathing of air impregnated with effluvia from decomposing vegetable and animal matter, in sewers, cess-pools, slaughter, houses, barn-yards chip-yards, cellars, etc. In cities and towns by the overcrowding in tenements, by imperfectly constructed water closets, untrapped and un-ventilated house drains admitting the return of sewer gases into dwellings and apartments. Finally it may be remarked, a possible means of contagion may be found to exist in milk supplied from sources where diphtheria is prevalent. The following recommendations are deduced from the foregoing, and must be regarded as being both simple and practicable when compared with the evil which their object is to counteract.

No specific. As there is no medicine or drug possessing or known to possess a specific curative effect upon diphtheria, and as each case may develop in its course symptoms more or less peculiar to itself, "which will require special observance and care," it becomes the first and most obvious duty of all heads of families etc., upon the least suspicion of an attack, to avail themselves at once of the services of their medical adviser, and not as is too often the case, delay calling upon him until the disease has had time to attain such progress as to elude his skill.

Separation of the sick. Recognizing the contagious nature of diphtheria, persons attacked with the disease must be immediately separated from those in health. Where practicable a large well-lighted upper room should be selected for their reception, and carpets, bed, and window curtains, with other unnecessary furniture, should be removed.

Ventilation. Heating. The air must be constantly changed by the admission of fresh supplies through open windows. This must be done in winter as well as in summer, and is never attended with danger when the room is kept warm and the patient protected from draughts.

Cleanliness. The sick should be kept clean, and sheets and body-linen frequently changed.

Destroying articles used about the sick. All cloths, rags, brushes and other articles used for cleansing the diseased surfaces of the patient, or for receiv-