

child's tooth is much larger than that of an adult, and will allow the arsenic, or other devitalizing poison used, to pass through and give much trouble. This, however, is not the most serious reason. In destroying the nerve, to relieve pain, the artery and blood vessel is also destroyed, therefore the tooth receives no further nourishment from that source, and becomes a dead tooth, losing its life-like appearance, and with less power to withstand the heavy strain put on it in mastication. And yet, what can the dentist do when the parents bring their children in such a neglected condition? He has either to destroy the nerve or extract the permanent tooth, which operation is a still more cruel and barbarous thing to do. About **thirty** per cent. of the children I found in a still more neglected condition; the teeth and mouths of many of them were so disgusting that no dentist would think of working for them until their mouths had been disinfected. Many of the children had from eight to twenty permanent teeth in various stages of decay; large numbers of them were dead teeth, mere shells, filled with decomposing food; other teeth were abscessed and the gums covered with vile, disgusting pus, which in many cases was very copious.

How shall I describe the furred condition of the tongue and the foul gases emitted from the mouths of such children, which were veritable hotbeds for every species of bacteria, having all the elements necessary for germination—heat, moisture, decomposing food and teeth, together with the foul gases arising from them and the stomach! What better conditions could bacteria have? Our health authorities are very careful about having all bones and refuse removed from yards to prevent the air from being polluted; and yet school children by the tens

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