

on the floor, on the furniture, the clothes, the linen and the human bodies.

The linen, and especially the bed linen, and the clothes of diseased and deceased are at the same time used by the persons still in health.

This dwelling together of healthy and sick persons in dilapidated rooms under the mentioned health-injuring conditions is the most dangerous, as in the most cases it affects persons who are poorly fed and are also exposed to the inclemency of the weather.

Stress must be laid upon the fact, that dwellings will not become dangerous as bearers of the germs of infections by short and passing use of a patient, but by long and frequent use, if the necessary sanitary precautions are not taken. It is necessary to point this out to guard against an unnecessary and disturbing panic among the people.

It is further certain that the living together with persons suffering with phthisis is apt to become dangerous and especially in connubial union; the healthy party may be attacked with hasty consumption, especially if the patient is already in a hectic condition, feverish and subject to night sweats. But we often see this danger pass by, if there is no predisposition and the other hygienic conditions are favorable.

Next to the dwellings of the populace, special sanitariums under certain conditions form the greatest danger for the aggravation and dissemination of consumption. Patients who enjoy at home many hygienic advantages, namely, a favorable residence and a healthy nourishment adapted to their condition and good nursing, are transported to sanitariums and they return in a miserable condition, or no' at all. Experience teaches us that the older the sanitorium is the more dangerous it is for the patient, for the attendants, and for the population in that place. Since years I am pained by this recognition, for which I made in vain propaganda in friendly circles and when I announced this opinion for the first time in my letter to Dr. Albutt, it was not without some apprehension. Considering the many interests affected, I had to fear the fate of Ibsen's "Volks' Fiend" concerning the people and in addition to have made such an unenviable reputation to no purpose. I am happy, however, to state that no opposition arose.

Wherein exists the danger of sanatoriums? Above all, again in the dwellings. Through decades, and in every season, consumptives change off with consumptives in the same chambers; the walls, furniture, linen, floors, carpets, curtains are suffused with poisonous germs, and this material attains in time through accumulation that quality which conveys the full power of deathly work.

My experience in reality is that the dangerous point is not bound up with the place, but with certain dwellings and quarters.