

special case, and if unable to come to a conclusion the patient should have the benefit of the doubt and be kept at home. A crying evil, against which the intelligent physicians at our best health resorts are protesting vigorously, is that so many patients are sent to them too far advanced to be in any way benefited.

The victim of tuberculosis is a menace to the public. Every expectoration has the possibility of harm, and already many of our best resorts are known to be infected. What wonder! Each tubercular case, we are told, may expectorate billions of bacilli daily which may retain their potency for months. In twenty cities in this country there were 25,000 deaths in one year. The average duration of these cases is over two years. In other words, 50,000 citizens in twenty of our best cities is a living danger to this extent to all the others. It is estimated by competent authority that 10,000,000 of the people now living in the United States will die of tuberculosis.

A hopeful view of this subject is that, owing to the advance in the knowledge of the cause and manner of transmission of tuberculosis, there is already a decrease in the death rate. The deaths per 1,000 in twenty cities in 1888 was 33.03 per cent. Ten years later it was 20.23 per cent., a decrease of 38.08 per cent. or 4,547 lives saved to the State.

The advantages of the sanitarium are many. They are educational institutions that by teaching and illustrating proper exercise, suitable diet, hygiene in its many applications, and by the encouragement given by careful and conscientious reports, prove to the public that tuberculosis is a curable disease. In them we have the best adaptation of special care to the individual as well as the protection of others from danger of transmission. The first sanitarium was founded by Brehmer, of Gorbersdorf, less than fifty years ago. Now similar institutions are found all over Europe and America. The whole world is acting on the hypothesis that tuberculosis may be stamped out. To do this the best institutions are needed, and the most advanced ideas and positive action required.

Other advantages are the mental rest and quiet that are often so much needed; a proper diet that will favor assimilation—the great antagonist of tubercular disease; open air treatment which can be so modified as to be devoid of danger, exercise suited to each case; hydrotherapeutics, so valuable in many instances of impaired function, and the special care that can be taken of the various complications such as fever