

STAMPING OUT CONSUMPTION.—The Canada Medical Record says: We venture to say that were it possible to isolate every case and disinfect every house, that the next generation would see the disease stamped out. These may be considered advanced views, but they are every year becoming more and more generally received, and we believe that the prevalence of the disease will gradually diminish just in proportion as these views are accepted by the profession at large. We know personally of many cases in which there was absolutely no heredity, but a very strong contagious element, while on the other hand we know of no case where there has been heredity without exposure to contagion either from the parents or from the house in which the case occurred.

ON "WEAK HEARTS," the Scientific American gives the following sensible remarks: The practical evils which are associated with a feeble heart are innumerable, and will readily suggest themselves to those who possess so unsatisfactory a pumping engine. Weak hearts are by no means so common as is often supposed. Many a man who thinks he has got one is merely dyspeptic; many a woman owes her symptoms to tight lacing or insufficient feeding. Even when the heart is genuinely "weak," the weakness is not always due to special disease of that organ. It may be only part of a general weakness, easily curable. The late Sir Robert Christison, one of the most eminent of British physicians, used to smile at certain persons who were always complaining of weak hearts. "Gentlemen," he would say to his students when lecturing on digitalis, "gentlemen, the best tonic for a weak heart is a good, brisk walk." The majority of weak, flabby hearts are weak and flabby because every other muscle in the body is weak and this general weakness and flabbiness is due to want of vigorous use. Exercise of the legs, and back, and arms, gives additional and much needed exercise to the heart, and the heart grows strong by vigorous exercise exactly as every other muscular organ does. If a man has no organic disease of the heart, no enlargement, and no functional disorder, plenty of brisk walking, with occasional running, will soon dispel his breathlessness and heart weakness, other things being equal.

HEREDITARY TENDENCY AND CURE OF CONSUMPTION.—Besides general weakness, a small heart, and attenuated blood vessel walls, the hereditary tendency of consumption consists in the liability to the formation of small, circumscribed characteristic inflammations in the lungs, just as a liability to desquamative, watery, itching skin eruptions is congenital. The inhaled bacillus preferably adheres to and flourishes upon such areas. We also see that arsenic and tar preparations, like creasote, act most favorably in phthisis, as they do in skin eruptions. It is the nutritive soil of the bacillus that must be acted upon in order to attain results. Phthisis is cured, therefore, not by the annihilation of the bacilli, but by giving support to the cellular elements performed for that purpose.

A DIFFICULTY IN SANITARY PROGRESS.—Dr. Garrison, Health Officer of Wheeling, Vir., remarks: One thing that weakens the public estimation of the importance of sanitary safeguards, is that nobody can prove that a preventive prevents. So long as the stable is locked, it is impossible to say that it has prevented the horse being stolen. Unlike most things, the usefulness of a preventive is proved only by not using it. The moment it is put in use, the demonstration of its necessity ceases.

ANOTHER DANGER.—The eggs of the *tænia echinococci*, a parasite derived from dogs, and, therefore, more or less infecting all waters to which dogs have access, appear to have an unequalled facility of passages to all parts of the human system. The New York Medical Journal quotes from a German publication particulars of a case in which the eye was thrust out of its socket by an *echinococcus* cyst in the rear, discovered by surgical exploration, and extracted.—Pacific Rec. of Med.

AN EXHIBITION of apparatus for the saving of human life and the prevention of accidents was opened on April 30th at Berlin by the Emperor accompanied by the Empress.

A SUCCESSFUL MOVEMENT has been carried out by the workmen of Sheffield, Eng., which deserves to be both widely known and imitated. The object is to diminish the risk of spreading infectious diseases in the general community by indemnifying the members for any loss of wages they may suffer through abstention from work when dangerous infectious diseases exist in their homes.