

the contagion of tuberculosis consist: 1st in combatting predispositions in whatever form they exist: 2nd, in limiting the number of contagious foci constantly created by consumptives: 3rd, in preventing the use of food capable of reproducing the disease.

1. *Hygienic Treatment of Children Born of Tuberculous Parents.*

This must begin at birth. If it is the mother who is tuberculous, she must not nurse the child. If possible, the child should be brought up in the country and better still, if possible, near the sea, or at least make long stays in the country, as the dangers of contagion are less frequent there than in cities. Any sign of feebleness such as rachitis, anæmia, enlarged glands, &c., should receive due attention. Diseases of the respiratory tract should be most carefully attended to, as they may directly prepare the soil preferred by the tuberculous germ. Later the person should be advised to choose a profession that will make him lead an out door life and he must as much as possible be kept away from dusty workshops or those in which there is a high temperature and in general from overcrowded and ill-ventilated workshops.

2. *How to Prevent or Lessen the Infection of the Healthy by the Sick.*

As, practically, (1) it is only by the dust of his dried sputum that the tuberculous patient may transmit the disease, it follows that *if his sputum or the things contaminated by it are destroyed or disinfected before they have had time to dry the patient ceases to be a source of infection, to those who come into contact with him.* This disinfection must be a persistent one, that is to say it must be done not only in the home of the patient, but also at any place he visits.

At home the patient should spit only in spittoons or bowls, cups, partially filled with water, or better with a disinfecting solution (2) so as to keep the sputum in a moist condition.

(1) The excreta of a tuberculosis patient may contain the germs of tuberculosis if the patient swallowed his sputum or if the intestine itself be in a state of tuberculous ulceration. For this reason all linen or clothing which have been thus contaminated must be well boiled.

(2) For instance: Bichloride of mercury 2 drachms. dissolved in one gallon of water.