

effects severe, yet none of the organs above mentioned are involved and escape of the bacilli cannot directly take place. A large proportion of tuberculous animals which show no clinical symptoms yet give a reaction to tuberculin, are included in this class. In some, the post-mortem lesions are very slight, and the tubercle will have to be carefully looked for. It may be found in a small gland in any part of the body, most frequently in the bronchial, peri-bronchial, or mesenteric, and occasionally in a bone or joint. The tuberculin test, while a valuable aid to diagnosis, will cause as much reaction in these obscure cases as in more pronounced ones, and in animals suffering from advanced disease often no reaction follows injection owing to a superabundance of the toxine in the system already. We may have extensive milary, mesenteric or pleural tuberculosis with pronounced symptoms, yet escape of the bacilli may not occur until an extension of the disease occurs involving the lungs, udder, uterus, intestines, kidneys, or liver, when they immediately become actively infective.

An animal or person may continue for years in the non-infective class, yet the change takes place so suddenly or so insidiously in many cases, that it would be very unwise to deal with any case of tuberculosis as non-infective.

Dr. Sims Woodhead referring to the subject, says (Report of Royal Commission) "A most important point is that the spread of tubercle in the udder goes on with the most alarming rapidity:—this I was able to observe in cows constantly under observation, but also noticed, on several occasions during the interval between fortnightly inspections carried on along with a Veterinary Surgeon, that the disease had become distinctly developed. It may be, of course, that the early evidence had been overlooked at the previous inspection, but whether this was the case or not the spread of the disease was so rapid, as to afford very good ground for alarm."

The very absence of any definite signs in the early stage is one of the greatest dangers of this condition. Both Dr. Martin and Dr. Woodhead insist that no tuberculous animal of any kind should be allowed to remain in a herd.

INGESTION OF FLESH OF TUBERCULOUS ANIMALS.

Of the danger from the consumption of meat from tuberculous animals, I wish to make it clear that the popular estimate of the danger from this source of infection is, on the whole, exaggerated, and as a matter of fact, except in advanced cases of generalised tuberculosis in cattle, it is very slight. Experiments have demonstrated that while intraperitoneal injection of muscle juice will produce tubercle, the ingestion of the same flesh will prove negative in nearly every instance. (Nocard).