

in her "city of huddled Poles."

Detroit is now fighting her incipient slums; St. Louis, partly aroused, is at work.

Washington, whose blind alleys have for years been the nation's shame, is soon to show the country how a city may deal with its plague spots and make them into gardens of delight.

New York, distinguished for having the worst housing conditions in the world, but long the leader in housing reform in America, continues the leadership. Her 7,000 privies are now a thing of the past, and her 100,000 windowless bedrooms are fast disappearing.

The outlook for the future is hopeful. The old idea that the housing problem could be solved by building a "model tenement" is fast disappearing. In its place one finds emphasis laid upon housing laws which will control the situation for all time; on efficient and vigilant sanitary inspection; on garden cities and model small houses in place of huge tenements; on instructive visitation of our immigrant population, and the teaching of the elements of hygiene in the Public Schools and in the home.

Ozone Purification.

United States Consul William Dulany Hunter, of Nice, France, in a report to the Bureau of Manufactures, tells of the method of purifying that city's water supply by the use of ozone. He says:

"As the water used here for drinking and other purposes was considered to be unwholesome, a new method of sterilization has been adopted. There is an electric power plant worked by water turbines, the force being the water which is afterwards sterilized. The two dynamos are run separately, so that there can be no stoppage while one of them is being cleaned or repaired. The force produced is 110 volts, 500 periods a second, which is transformed into an alternating current, with a potential power of 17,000 volts. This high-power current is conducted to a so-called ozone battery. Each of the five batteries composing a system consists of three vertical copper plates two feet square and one and one-half inches thick, with a space of eight inches between each. In one of these spaces there is a pair of glass sheets, between which the electric sparks

decompose the air, which is forced through them by a sucking machine. The decomposed air consists of ozone and azotic acid. The azotic acid is retained and pure ozone made available by passing the decomposed air through a vertical vitrified pipe containing charcoal dust and pieces of cement. The water, under a pressure of a fall of twelve feet, flows through a system of earthen tubes about one inch in diameter and having thirty-three holes each; these tubes pass through a space filled with ozone, which the water absorbs.

"After the first process of sterilization the water flows into a tank in which there is a wire netting supporting about three feet of pebbles. These pebbles divide the water so that it falls like a heavy rain to the bottom of the tank, and a strong ozone current, coming from the sides of the tank, is absorbed by the falling water. The ozone is then extracted by having the water fall on stone steps. Medical authorities declare that, after having undergone this process, the water is absolutely germ-free and that it is impossible to produce any kind of germ culture in it.

"Two ozone plants were built in 1909; one of them gives an output of 39.61 gallons a second and the other 72.99 gallons. Each of these plants is composed of two separate systems, so that there can be no possibility of a shortage of water. A new plant is under construction which is to be large enough to supply all the towns and cities between Nice and Mentone, a distance of twenty-four miles. New water-works are also to be constructed in the near future at both Cannes and Grasse."

"Common Colds."

The Committee on Prevention of Disease of the Boston Chamber of Commerce has just concluded a most interesting study of over 3,000 individual cases of common colds, occurring in that city in the six months from December, 1909, until June, 1910.

This investigation was begun to show that colds are not due to insufficient clothing, to low or thin shoes, changes from heat to cold temperature, to the breathing of night air or any of the usually accepted reasons why we snifle during the winter.

The report reads that the Chamber of Commerce seemed to prove conclusively that colds are spread from victim to vic-