

I have described, giving out foul gases, than which nothing can be more vile. This is not all. These children, as I have shown, are not able to masticate their food properly, the result being indigestion, dyspepsia, and alimeentary troubles, causing a superabundant quantity and quality of vile gases, generated from the unmasticated, undigested, decomposing foods in the stomach of so many of these children. These gases are constantly passing from them to foul the air, which your children and the teachers have to breathe for six hours a day; and remember that this air is heated up and breathed over and over again, and is always getting viler as the hours pass by. Allow me, on this subject, to again refer to Dr. Rose's admirable paper, in which he says: "The first sanitary care, as is known, in the construction of a new school building at the present day, is devoted to the quesetion of fresh and wholesome air." "Every dentist," he says, "knows the shocking odors which a single person with an unclean condition of the mouth is capable of exhaling. Now imagine fifty to eighty school children exhaling such pestilential odors, packed together in a more or less small room with defective ventilation, and you have the condition as it exists in many of the German village schools which I examined." He further says that he has often pitied the teachers who, daily, for six hours are compelled to inhale this pestiferous air.

Let me here say, that his description of the air in the German schools is not worse than I have found it in some of the city schools I have visited. So much for the air your children have to breathe for six hours a day during five days of the week; but that is not all the poison they receive from these children.