

produce tuberculosis in the human. That these are very small and cannot be slaughtered individually like buffalo, is true, but it is also true that their very minuteness means that billions can be slaughtered in one operation, if they are only kept together. As to tuberculosis germs being everywhere, all over, outdoors and indoors—this is *not* true. No more important fact in public health has ever been formulated than this, due to that keen leader in public health, Chapin of Providence: *The germs that produce disease are not ubiquitous, not in dust everywhere, water everywhere, milk everywhere.* They are chiefly, almost wholly, *in the bodies* of a few (relatively) people, or animals; and when they escape from those bodies, where alone they find the peculiar food, high temperature, abundant moisture, and darkness which they need, they promptly die or become harmless. Even in water, milk, food, etc., into which they may be introduced from infected persons, their lives are short, and they must quickly reach a new living victim, or die.

To abolish any one race of disease germs is far easier than to destroy some much larger things. Thus to abolish flies means not only killing all flies, indoors in all houses everywhere, in all stables everywhere, in and around all dwellings everywhere, but also throughout all fields and forests, mountains and valleys everywhere, because flies are hardy outdoor beings as well as indoor beings. They can breed and flourish almost anywhere, where any kind of food, even in vanishing quantity, is to be had. Moreover, they can move of their own volition with promptness and despatch, have quick eyes and quicker wings to escape designing enemies, and in a thousand ways can take care of themselves.