

other similar diseases. Tuberculosis, however, in accordance with the special section of the Sanitary Code, enacted to provide for these measures, is distinctly separated from the eruptive diseases—is not classed with them as a contagious disease, but is referred to as “an infectious and communicable disease.” It has always appeared to the Health Board exceedingly desirable that a broad distinction should exist in the public mind between this disease and those diseases which are more properly classed as contagious.

In the treatment of apartments, which have been occupied by tubercular patients and vacated by death or removal, renovation has been and is ordered, rather than disinfection attempted, because the Health Board has always felt that disinfection for tuberculosis in the poorest tenement houses was too difficult to be satisfactorily performed, and has considered renovation as certainly efficient. In the thousands of orders requiring the renovation of premises, which have been issued under the resolution referred to upon the owners of real property during the last four years, little or no difficulty has been experienced in enforcing compliance, and rarely has there been serious objection.

Public institutions, hospitals, asylums, homes, &c., are now not only required to report the name, last address, sex, age and occupation of every case of tuberculosis coming under observation within one week of such time, but they are further required to notify the Department of the discharge or transfer of such patients. The purpose of this procedure is to keep under more or less constant supervision those cases of pulmonary tuberculosis which occur among the poorest classes of the population; in other words, those which are most likely to be dangerous sources of infection to others. Unfortunately, at the present time there are no hospitals, directly under the control of the Health Department, for the care or isolation of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis; but it is hoped that such hospitals may be soon provided.

The best medical opinion forbids that persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis be treated in association with other classes of cases in the general medical wards of general hospitals. This opinion is based on the daily observations of dangers incident thereto, and it has very properly resulted in the exclusion, to a large extent, of persons suffering from this disease from many of the general hospitals to which they were formerly admitted.

A large experience has also shown that in institutions devoted solely to the care of consumptives the general welfare of the patients is more easily fostered, the risks of fresh infection more certainly diminished and the chances for recovery more surely enhanced than in general hospitals in which all classes of cases are received.