

There is, second, the *Municipal* agency. Every town should pass certain laws that shall pertain towards the protection of its inhabitants against infections. In this respect, such towns as Hamilton, in Ontario, deserve the eulogy of the Medical Science. By legally prohibiting anybody, under pain of prosecution, from expectorating on the ground within the city limits, the authorities have done a great deal to prevent the spread of tuberculosis of the lungs in their city. (Just lately a similar law has been passed in Montreal.) Similarly, a certain town in Germany has recently passed a law forbidding any women to wear long dresses when walking in the streets. For, as is well-known, one of the ways in which the tubercle bacilli are introduced into the dwelling, and thus attack the occupants, is by the trailing of long dresses in the dirt of the streets. Here, again, I cannot help mentioning the usefulness to a municipal government of enforcing such regulations as will be detailed in the part which deals with Preventive Medicine, pure and simple.

And, lastly, there is the *Central* Agency. I allude to the Public Health Department. The latter is, in fact, *the* powerful agency for the prevention of disease. The stringent system maintained in Germany has benefitted that country materially. In that land of learning all the schools both in city and country, are thoroughly inspected, and the children safeguarded as much as possible against disease. Now, it should be the duty of the Public Health Department to enforce a law which makes it compulsory that hygiene—in as elementary a form as possible, of course—be taught in all the public schools. Such a system is in force in Germany and in Austria. In those countries it is also compulsory for every child to attend school.

The printing of anti-tuberculosis circulars, and their distribution, has not accomplished half the purpose that they were intended for. Indeed, it is well known that, through carelessness and untidyness, youth is the innocent propagator of germs. And who would expect that the small boy or girl would abandon the storybook for the anti-tuberculous circular, unless it were one of the regular lessons at school? And, again, if the ordinary elementary principles of respiration, the circulation, etc., were made known to all the school-children, the number of adults, in future suffering from cardiac lesions, respiratory troubles, and circulatory disorders, would be greatly diminished. It is only too true that a certain proportion of these maladies are due to the inattention of the individuals, during their youth, to such matters as overtaxing their circulatory, respiratory, and muscular systems. Nor must it be forgotten that this inattention was primarily due to lack of informa-