

is absurd, it is preposterous, whether it be five, ten, fifteen, or twenty days; they should not be shut up on board ship a single day.

If we cannot do that, what is it that we can do in the city? It is very simple; everybody says, clean the city. Do you realize what cleaning the city is, what sanitary inspections are? I do not believe that there is a man here who can inspect thoroughly one hundred tenement houses in a week. I said thoroughly; I do not mean simply to walk and look around the rooms. To inspect a tenement house or a palace involves beginning at the attic, the opening of every door and window in that house, the taking down of every curtain, the looking under every bed, the turning over and moving of that bed, the opening of every closet and looking at things in the closet, the moving of every piece of furniture, and going down and down into the cellar and looking at everything in that cellar.

Now, if houses are foul, what do you think of ships? You probably never have seen a Russian Jew when he starts for this country. He is a man who probably has never washed in his life; he is a man who has certainly worn the rags upon him as many years as these rags would hold together. You put that man in a crowded steerage; he becomes seasick, (this same thing applies to the women), he vomits, his dejecta are thrown out in that bunk, it becomes saturated with seasickness, and then he becomes choleraic. Will you tell me what amount of cleansing will get that ship in condition again for a long time, except all such men are taken out and then she is thoroughly washed and cleaned? All these ships are damp ships. We are told that water is the very means of communicating cholera. We know in the navy that water has had a great deal to do with the spread of tubercles. It used to be the disease that prevailed in our service, and the medical officers of the navy for thirty years were fighting wet decks, and the last few years there has been no such thing as wet decks on board ship. If the atmosphere can support and transmit this aqueous vapor, and with it the tubercle germ, is it not possible that the same atmosphere can transmit that aqueous vapor, and with it the cholera germ? I do know whether Dr. Sternberg will agree with me in that; certainly, I think if that aqueous vapor gets into the mouth in any way, it will be carried down to the stomach. Imperfect sanitation is worse than no sanitation. Fumigation is as unfortunate a word as quarantine. I abominate the word quarantine, because it carries with it the idea of forty days' detention, and that I do not approve of; it would be better to call it sanitary non-intercourse. Fumigation is worse than quarantine, because if you fumigate you burn something, and you think you are perfectly safe. A friend told me he was in a house during a fumigation, and as he did not feel inclined to move he stayed there, and sat in the room and read a paper during all the time of the fumigation. There is a report in the papers of a