

static forceps should be applied between the bulb and the bottle. The metal ring placed in the bottom of the jar I have devised not only to hold the ether bottle in position but to diminish the chances of breakage when hot water is poured into the jacket. The metal cap provides passage on one side for the thermometer and on the other for a funnel when the addition of hot water is found necessary. I have no doubt that many minor improvements in the apparatus will suggest themselves with experience in its use.

THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY AS AN ECONOMIC FACTOR.

BY

JEFFREY H. BURLAND, B.Sc.

The zeal with which science and philanthropy are attacking this, perhaps greatest, problem of our age—the cure and prevention of tuberculosis—is throwing a strong light on a great many aspects of the situation of hitherto unsuspected importance and danger to other interests than the public health. Among these, the yearly losses in revenue to insurance from the excessive mortality due to consumption, as well as from the increasing incidence of the disease, stand out prominently as an arresting factor in the normal development of a business which would otherwise naturally grow, in a certain positive ratio, with the increase of population.

From the calculations, observations, and statistics compiled by experts in this comparatively new field of research, there is startling, though incomplete, evidence at hand of a heavy drain on insurance profits, and a vast amount of business lost, through the prevalence of tuberculosis. The value of these discoveries can hardly fail to be appreciated at a first glance. The necessity for taking immediate action in the shape of prudential and preventive measures, by co-operation with the existing remedial agencies, is also apparent. I hope to show conclusively that the insurance companies will be among the first to feel the benefits of such co-operation, and that the resulting improvement will be both permanent and progressive. The truth of Emerson's axiom that "the first wealth is health" will, I trust, be abundantly demonstrated in the course of my remarks.

The first and most important fact to be realised in this connection is the high and uniform rate of mortality from tubercular diseases recorded in every country in the world. According to the mortality statistics of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, Canada gives the