

principles, the paternal form of government is not to be recommended, but as all government should be for the best interests of the governed, the governed should be compelled to submit to what is conducive to those interests. The first few, say five or six, years of the person's life, determine his physical being. The under-fed and poorly nourished and imperfectly clad child is stunted, and seldom or never recovers its growth. This law is recognized by the stock raiser, and the illustrations of it in the human species are of lamentable frequency.

The question of how the thousands and hundreds of thousands of infants of this country now improperly cared for, shall be placed in such a condition and so cared for as will favor their growth into such citizens as it is to the interests of the republic to develop, is one for the statesman rather than for the physician. It is for the latter to indicate the necessity for reform, for the former to devise the means.

THE MILK SUPPLY IN WINTER.

In the summer time, when the milch cows run free in the fields and subsist on green fresh grass, the quality of the milk, as it comes from the cows, except in cases of diseased cows, is usually good, however much it may be fouled by the carelessness of milkers, or adulterated through the dishonesty of dealers. The cows too are then usually milked in the field, and the milk is sent from the field or open yard direct to the consumers, and the risk of spreading specific infection—as of typhoid or scarlet-fever, in case any members of the dairyman's household happen to suffer from such disease, is comparative but little.

In the winter, there is greater

danger in the milk supply. The cows are housed, for the most part, in dark, unventilated, foul stables; their food is often not appropriate, and disease is not infrequently soon developed in the cows; while the milk is taken to the dairymen's dwelling, and is there liable to contamination with germs of specific disease, as well as with less serious impurities.

Milk forms, usually, a large proportion of the food of young children, who should always be provided with the very best quality of food, and it is of the utmost importance that heads of families look well to the source of their milk supply at this season of the year.

The London, (Eng.) *Medical Times and Gazette*, of Dec. 4, reports that scarlet-fever was prevalent in the Ornskirk district, and that the Rural Sanitary Authority had been applied to by the Medical Officer of health, of Southport, for co-operation in watching over the milk-supply. It stated that over twenty cases of fever had broken out in Southport, and the whole of the persons affected had obtained their milk from a common source. A farm from which milk was sent to Southport had been visited, with the result that the fever was found there.

In *The Sanitarian*, for December, on the subject of Tuberculosis, or consumption, as an infectious disease, we find that the *Lancet* recalls previous contributions to this subject, and in particular to a very interesting and exhaustive paper, so long ago, as October, 1875, from the pen of Mr. Fleming, then Veterinary Surgeon to the Royal Engineers, which appeared in the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*. In that paper, evidence as to the infectiousness of tuberculosis and its accidental transmission from diseased to healthy