

symptoms have disappeared. It is undesirable at such times, unless absolutely required, to remove such patients to the hospital, and yet in the eruptive fevers this is the period of the disease when there is greatest danger of transmission to others.

During the last year we have had a serious epidemic of diphtheria to deal with. The number of cases reported weekly during the last month, however, has steadily decreased. The schools have just now opened, and it seems to us that the most strenuous efforts should be made to prevent a new outbreak of the disease or its reintroduction to the schools. This measure would be of undoubted service in accomplishing the desired object.

We would recommend, however, that placards should be nailed to the outside doors of the apartments in which cases of contagious disease are present, when in the judgment of the Chief Inspector of Contagious Diseases this course seems to be desirable, and that the placards should bear the following inscription, differing as to the name of disease in question and as to color. The color for diphtheria should be white; for scarlet fever, red; for measles, blue.

#### "DIPHTHERIA.

"All persons not occupants of this apartment are notified of the presence of diphtheria in it, and are warned to avoid entering it until this notice is removed. The persons sick with diphtheria must not leave as long as this notice remains here.

"By order of the Board of Health,

"———, President.

"———, Secretary."

## SANITARY CONDITION OF DAIRY FARMS.\*

By Dr. JOHN M. PARKER, Haverhill, Mass.

In a paper read before the American Medical Association in 1891 on "The Treatment of Chronic Pulmonary Consumption," the essayist remarks: "Our surroundings make us what we are. If our treatment could begin with the birth of the patient, in 99 per cent. of cases, we should have no tuberculosis to treat. *No matter about the family history.*" This remark applies equally well to dairy cows. *Their surroundings make them what they are.* And I venture to assert that, if the *sanitary* and *hygienic* conditions were what they should be, we would have little or no bovine tuberculosis in our dairy herds. It is the common, every-day life a person leads that governs his health; and it is the common, every-day life the dairy cow leads that governs her health and vitality. *Their surroundings make them what they are.*

Sanitary science has made vast strides in the last twenty years, yet our dairy farms are in practically the same condition they were in fifty or one hundred years ago. In fact, no effort is made on the average farm to conform to any sanitary laws or regulations whatsoever. The old barbarous practice of confining the cattle in stanchions is still in use; the old barn and barn-yard with its strong odour and slimy filth is still in existence.

Sanitary science is advancing every

\* Read before the Massachusetts Veterinary Association, May 23rd, 1894.