

where no dust is produced, about 10 per cent. fall victims to tuberculosis, whilst among those who have to deal with dust producing articles the proportion is twenty per cent.

The occupation from which the largest number of consumptives come is housework, and other occupations for females which contribute largely are those of factory hand, weaver, seamstress, laundry worker and store employee. The occupation for males standing at the head of the list is that of laborer, probably because men who follow this occupation have all kinds of rough work to do, are poorly paid, poorly fed and poorly housed, and live in poor environments. Other occupations largely represented are tailor, clerk, cigar maker, salesman, printer and shoemaker. Each suggests a certain standard of sanitary conditions. Another group of occupations is noteworthy on account of the fact that from exposure, association or hard work there is a marked tendency to the use of alcohol on the part of those engaged in them. To this group belong the occupations of driver, waiter and bartender. Still another group exposes the worker to the inhalation of irritating substances given off in manufacturing processes. Such are mill hand, weaver, machinist, iron worker, upholsterer and leather worker.

In many instances the trouble lies not so much in the occupation as in the unsanitary and unhygienic conditions prevailing in the place in which the work is carried on. All working places are not to be stigmatised but any shop which is not well lighted, freely ventilated and properly cleaned, which has not sufficient air space for each person and in which there are not the proper kind of cuspidors in sufficient number, with rigid rules against careless spitting, is contributing its share towards the dissemination of the disease.

STORES.

Salespeople are daily exposed in greater or less degree to the contagion of tuberculosis. Customers suffering from the disease carelessly cough over the goods under inspection. The expectorated material lodges in the goods, dries, and is subsequently inhaled when the wares are again handled. The constant presence of a consumptive behind the counter is, however, a much greater

source of danger. In a case under treatment at the present time the history has been carefully traced backward through a period of six years and the source of contagion discovered at a time when the patient worked as a salesgirl behind a counter at which there was as a worker in a like capacity a woman suffering from the disease whose custom it was to expectorate freely on the floor behind the counter. Another danger to store employees depends on the conduct of the store itself. Often the admission of sunlight is unknown, ventilation is frequently inadequate, cleanliness is sometimes neglected, or the methods in use are vicious, antiquated or inefficient.

THE SCHOOLS

Schoolrooms, too, are often agents in the spread of the disease. Statistics show that about 27% of teachers die of tuberculosis. In school-children, tuberculosis of the glands, bones and joints is very common. And even if it could be shown that schools are not places in which the disease is apt to be acquired, they certainly are suitable places for the preparation of the soil. In many cases the construction of the school buildings is faulty. Rooms are poorly lighted and more poorly ventilated. Overcrowding prevails so that the air space allotted to each pupil is inadequate. Often the rooms are either too hot or too cold. Dust accumulates laden with the material shaken from a hundred feet. Every day it is driven from point to point both by the brooms and dry-cloths. Children are overworked both in school and at home, and, in many cases, instead of being educated for a life of usefulness, they are prepared for one of chronic invalidism or for an early grave.

The same things hold true regarding railway trains, street cars, stations, waiting rooms and public places everywhere. In these places are found all classes of people. Some expectorate freely and carelessly. Some who expectorate are diseased. And so the disease is spread.

To summarize then it may be said:

- (1) Consumption is not hereditary.
- (2) Only people in poor health contract it.
- (3) The germ is in the sputum.
- (4) The proper care of the sputum renders the consumptive harmless.
- (5) No spit—no consumption.

Concrete Evidence of Curability of Consumption

"To believe that consumption is a curable disease one has but to consult the statistics furnished by the large sanatoriums. From any institutions which only receive patients in the very early stages of the disease, seventy to seventy-five per cent. were discharged cured."—Dr. Henry P. Loomis.