

ill-health and disease second to no other which affects the human race.

When I state that in two schools in this city about 95 per cent. of the children were found to have decayed teeth, the prevalence of the condition can be readily grasped. It is impossible for me, however, to give this body any adequate idea of the horrible conditions found in the mouths of a great many school children. They are conditions which have to be seen to be appreciated. Mouths repulsive with filth and decay, hypertrophied and inflamed gum tissue, jagged and suppurating roots, cavities filled with "mouth garbage," teeth the root canals and pulp chambers of which contain the dead and putrefying remains of the artery vein, nerve and connective tissue, which formed the pulp of the tooth; frequently as many as four or five alveolar abscesses veritable pus factories, pouring continuous streams of pus into the mouth and stomach of the child; teeth covered with green stain and fermenting food particles, and in many cases as a direct result of this mass of infection a throat blocked with adenoids and enlarged tonsils and a tongue giving striking and abundant evidence of the resultant indigestion and constipation in the intestinal tract.

This is not an exaggerated picture. Anyone will recognize it who has had an opportunity of examining school children's mouths. Neither is it confined to the poorer schools. Oral sepsis is no respecter of persons. Thousands of cases of which the foregoing is a faithful picture may be found in the best city schools, both here and elsewhere. I have seen conditions in the mouths of children that you would step around if you saw on the street; conditions as pitiful as they are horrible, accompanied as they are in almost every case by evidences in the physique