

nature of the surface, and materials, to which the liquid disinfectant is to be applied must be such as will not be injured by the liquid.

The matter resolves itself into walls, floors, and wood-work composing articles of furniture, (like chairs, tables and bedsteads).

The liquid disinfectants in common use are a solution of Perchloride of Mercury (1 in 1000), Carbolic Acid solution (1 in 20), and Izal (1 in 60). Of these Carbolic Acid and Izal are much to be preferred, because they will stick to greasy surfaces, whereas Mercury solution will not adhere. All articles of furniture, which are handled by people, necessarily become greasy on their surface.

The various objects, having become wetted with the liquid disinfectant, should be allowed to remain untouched for about twelve hours. The remaining objects in the room which do not allow, by their texture of the application of the liquid, must be treated by some form of gaseous disinfectant. These articles usually consist of carpets, tapestries, various ornaments, pictures, and certain articles of fine clothing.

The only gas which we need consider, from a practical standpoint, is Formaldehyde.

Before applying the gas however, the room must be prepared to receive it, as we wish to attain a certain concentration of the gas in the air of the room. We must therefore render the room as nearly air-tight as possible; all cracks and crevices in the floor, walls, around windows, and doorways, must be plastered up with strips of paper, 2 inches wide, stuck on with common flour paste—the various articles must be spread out, such things as bundles of clothing, etc., must be freely opened up, and are usually hung over lines, so that the gaseous disinfectant can be brought into contact with all surfaces. It is necessary to observe this precaution, because as mentioned before, these gaseous disinfectants have very little, or no penetrating power, and it can be realized how easily imperfect disinfection may arise when these precautions are not observed.