

measures instituted for the prevention of this terrible disease. Not only has there been a very material decline in the number of deaths occurring from it, but there has been a most gratifying increase of the knowledge and intelligence among the poorest class of the population as to its nature. The inspectors detailed for this work report, that on their first inspection, in nearly one-half of the cases occurring in many parts of the tenement house districts of the city, it is found that more or less efficient precautions are being taken for its prevention. Such precautions as the use of rags to receive the sputum, which are later burned, instead of handkerchiefs; the use of cups containing water or a disinfecting solution; the separation of the clothing of the patient from that belonging to others, and similar measures.

This increase of intelligence, and the precautions resulting from it, afford the greatest promise in the future, of a persistent and still more rapid decline in the frightful morbidity and mortality caused by the tubercular diseases.

Investigations made by the department, showing that the dust in the street cars and various public places was often infectious, led to the enactment of an amendment to the Sanitary Code prohibiting the spitting on the floors of street cars, ferry boats and other public conveyances, and requiring that all companies should post in their cars, boats, etc., printed notices forbidding this. This regulation is very difficult of enforcement; but, while the results have been far from satisfactory, there has yet been a definite improvement in the existing conditions.

The method employed for recording and platting cases of diphtheria is also used for cases of tuberculosis. I have had prepared transcripts from the maps on which are platted the cases of diphtheria and tuberculosis, to show the distribution of these cases in certain wards of the city. These wards have been selected in each instance because of the large number of cases of the respective diseases occurring in them.

Maps 1 and 2 show respectively the 4th and 6th wards, with the distribution of reported cases and deaths from tuberculosis in these wards during three years. The cases and deaths in 1894 are platted with a circle; cases and deaths in 1895 with triangle, and the cases and deaths in 1896 with a dagger. The dwelling houses in the maps have been colored so as to put them in contrast with buildings not occupied as dwelling houses. Thus the dwellings which had one or more cases of tuberculosis during this period are colored pink, and those free from tuberculosis during these years are colored blue. The plots which are uncolored are not dwelling houses, but occupied by business buildings, warehouses, etc.

These maps argue more forcibly for the infectious and communicable character of this disease than could any words. It should be said, however, that in some instances where a large number of cases have occurred in one house during these years, the house had been occupied as a Chinese lodging house. This is especially true of several of the houses on Pell and Mott streets.