

consider has not been definitely determined, owing to the various methods of cooking and the extent to which different portions are exposed to heat: personally we prefer our meat free from tubercle—if we can get it. If meat is to be sold when only slightly affected, let it be sold as such, and make it a legally essential point that the vendor declare its nature. We think that no further legal enactment would prove necessary to ensure the freedom of tubercle in our meat supplies, as there are few who would knowingly purchase, even at a reduced price, diseased meat.

Another factor in the cause of phthisis is overcrowding. This has been known for many years, and strenuous efforts are being made to minimise the evil; but in our large towns and cities there is still much to be done. The methods of exit from the crowded places must be made easy and cheap; the difficulty does not seem to lie so much with the preparation of suitable dwellings in the suburbs, but as to how the populace are to be conveyed thither at such a time as they are desirous of going. The chief railways seem wholly unable to cope with this trouble, and the trains are overcrowded to an unwarranted extent at such hours; for whilst the law steps in and prevents the overcrowding of omnibuses, it demurely leaves alone the railway system, and the railway officials themselves look on encouragingly rather than endeavor to grapple with the dilemma by the greater frequency of train service, the increase of the number of popular carriages, and the better regulation of admittance to the platform. These statements do not refer to London alone; other large towns suffer equally; indeed, wherever it is a desideratum to prevent overcrowding these circumstances exist.

If 70,000 persons die every year from tuberculous disease—which for Great Britain and Ireland is a very moderate computation—at least 200 persons must catch the disease every day. It is the realisation of this fact which has called into existence the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption and other Forms of Tuberculosis. The mission of the Association is to carry into every dwelling in the land an elementary

knowledge of the modes in which consumption is propagated, and of the means by which its spread may be prevented, and thus to strengthen the hands of medical men through out the country who are dealing with the disease. To this end the public must be educated, and the instinct of self-preservation aroused. The objects of the Association are briefly as follows:—1. To educate the public as to the means of preventing the spread of consumption from those already suffering from the disease. 2. To extinguish tuberculosis in cattle. 3. To promote the erection of sanatoria for open-air treatment of tuberculosis disease. There is no "specific" for consumption. In the words of Sir Samuel W. Wilks, the only remedies are "air and sunshine—air, fresh air." The treatment is applied at Falkenstein, Gohersdorf, Davos, and several places in the Riviera and elsewhere, with most excellent results. Experience gained in Edinburgh, Norfolk and Ireland has demonstrated that the most satisfactory results can be obtained at home. The Association, therefore, advocates the erection of sanatoria for every large centre of population. Poor-law authorities will sooner or later find that it is more economical to provide sanatoria, where tuberculous paupers may recover, than to send them to infirmaries to die. Municipalities will consider it their duty to defend the populations over whose interests they watch from consumption, as they now do from fever, by the erection of sanatoria; and the charitable public generally will help. Meanwhile in London a beginning is to be made by a self-supporting sanatorium, which will minister to the needs of the class which lies between the rich and the poor.

Dr. Theodore Williams, speaking at a meeting in Plymouth on February 21st on behalf of the objects of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, said the first thing they wanted to do was to interest the public in the subject. So many had relatives or friends stricken down by this terrible disease that the time had come for all classes, the Government, public bodies and, above all, the public, to interest themselves in it. They also wanted to do something to secure the supply of milk