

erinary ; its sphere comprises everything relating to health, including even the food of the people ; obligatory rules in regard to the diet of workingmen are numerous and minute.

The national administrative *cadre* is paralleled by the medical. The *préfet*, or departmental governor, has the aid of a doctor, correspondent in grade, and nearly as well paid ; the heads of districts and communes have, likewise, medical advisers receiving the same salaries. Midwives and veterinaries are subordinated to this "department." In each town of importance the physician has a right to form part of the municipal council or board of aldermen.

The country is, therefore, as to hygiene, in the hands of medical men—a national board of health, with proper sub-officials—empowered to inspect and dispose all things concerning the physical well being of mankind and of domestic animals.

By way of illustration : Every child must be vaccinated between the third and twelfth month ; again when leaving the primary school ; and once more when twenty-one years of age. This operation,

free and compulsory, is performed from May 1st. to September the 30th. under superintendence of the *préfet* and departmental surgeon, in presence of the mayor. The proper medical officer must inspect inhabited houses, and remove causes of illness arising from poor food and water, defective drainage, and from customs relating to births, burials, etc. Buildings where there are contagious diseases have descriptive labels affixed. Strict and detailed directions exist to stop the progress of infectious maladies, both on the frontier and throughout the kingdom. In this newly-formed European commonwealth, however, the function of the departmental doctor is to trace how marriages are made, if they produce hereditary affections, what is the average number of children to each union, and whether there are limiting causes. Under penalty of disciplinary punishment, the medical officer is to obtain from the *préfet* measures to abolish, in workshops and private houses, "everything that may injure health."—By the Editor, as published in the Empire.

TWO NOTABLE OUTBREAKS OF TUBERCULAR DISEASE IN COWS.

THE principal facts in regard to the remarkable prevalence of tuberculosis in the Orono herd, as given by Dr. Geo. H. Bailey, Secretary and Veterinary Surgeon of the Board of Commissioners for Maine on Contagious Diseases of Animals, in a Report to the Legislature, are as follows ; from the second Annual Report of the State Board of Health of Maine :

Early in March, 1886, Dr. Bailey was called to inspect the College herd, which then numbered fifty-one head, and came to the conclusion that a large proportion of the animals was suffering with tuberculosis.

"The result of subsequent examinations and consultations with the State and College officials, and finally with Dr. C. B. Michener, who was detailed for this service by the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington, culminated, as is now well

known, in the condemnation and destruction of the whole herd."

"At the time of my first visit I found the buildings in which the cattle were contained were among the best and most commodious I had ever visited, and that every provision for the maintenance of perfect health among its occupants had been fully and amply secured. An abundance of sunlight and pure water, scrupulous cleanliness, sufficient and wholesome nutrition, thorough drainage, and ventilation so perfect that the air was almost as pure inside the barn as out ; all contributed to the uniformly fine appearance of this high-bred herd, which proved so deceptive (upon further investigation) that, had it not been for the persistent and pathognomonic cough by which they, one by one, betrayed their real condition, I should have much doubted the correctness of my decision. The