

How Paris Municipality Fights Tuberculosis.

By EDWARD CONNER.
(Concluded from September issue.)

Respecting domiciliary measures, the municipality proposes to distribute written instructions to supply spitting boxes, to disinfect premises, and to obtain supplies of disinfectants at the local sanitary offices and the mayoralties, to inculcate the fact that tuberculosis is curable, and spreads by expectorated matters; that the spitting boxes ought and must be washed out daily in cold water, and all contaminated linen scalded for at least five minutes. However, in the eyes of the poor, these are theoretical, though excellent measures. The poor have no fire, often no fire-place, and those whom misery has brought low will care but little for reading instruction. The plan of Doctor Seailles is better; have "inspection nurses" attached to the dispensaries, who will visit every second day the invalids, see that the medicaments prescribed have duly been taken, and that the doctor's instructions followed; that hygienic measures are not neglected, while not allowing the poor to feel that they are abandoned. Control this service of inspection nurses, or *infirmiers surveillants*, by means of fortnightly reports. The experiment is at present being tried in a quarter of the city (a slum) where misery chronically exists—the seventeenth ward, or *arrondissement*, which has a population of 180,000, and where the deaths from tuberculosis in 1891 amounted to 378; 526 in 1892, and 564 in 1893.

Doctor Brisenstein asserts that physicians in charge of the relief dispensaries can cite cases where whole families have become extinct from tuberculosis. On one fact all the doctors in charge of the dispensaries are agreed, that among the medicaments supplied, the most necessary is sterilised milk. The latter is to be consumed on the spot, in the dispensary even. Then the spectacle would be rarer of children—indifferent at play, or in their occupations—in a pestilential *milieu* and doomed to certain death within a not distant time. Doctor Vildermen proposes to sell to the necessitous and the indigent, the sterilised milk at five sous the $1\frac{3}{4}$ pint, or *litre*, being a reduction of 50 per cent. on current prices, and to supply them gratuitously with an apparatus to sterilise the milk themselves. But the poor have no fires. The municipality of Paris is urged to accord a subsidy of no less than 200,000 francs to a company of dairymen to supply genuine milk—and why not sterilized in advance?

The plan of Doctor Seailles is, however, more practical. He would distribute medicated milk as a fortifying aliment for the loss of strength, and the absence of effective nutrition are the great evils to be combated. All persons who lose one-third of their weight are in danger of immediate death. To-day, observes Dr. Seailles, physicians have nothing to prescribe but cod-liver oil and glycerine. He advocates the milk treatment, and urges one quart daily

of genuine milk as a powerful recuperative adjunct. The next point is to see that the tuberculous patient takes that quantity every day. The doctor would prescribe one pint of medicated milk, either iodurated, glycerined, phosphated, etc., by the chemist, that would prevent the milk from being consumed by the non-invalids; also recommends the preparation of meat powder, lentils, pea and oatmeal meals. It is the progressive inanition, the wasting away, which constitute the grave dangers that threaten the diseased. Hence, make sure to supply the equivalent of the loss by furnishing medicaments in packets at the pharmacies. To cure the tuberculous we must nourish him; to do so we must place at his disposal those medicaments which he cannot buy, while the inspection nurses would see that professional and hygienic measures were executed faithfully. The municipal council proposes to expend six millions of francs to fight the plague. It will, if necessary, strike a special "tuberculosis tax." One and a-half centime on the assessed property of the city would yield that sum. The municipality could also claim a larger divide of the tax levied on the bettings at the race courses in the suburbs. Small hospitals would be erected having 2,000 beds, to isolate patients, where all modern medical appliances would be introduced. That organization would supersede the cumbersome and disparted plans of relief now in operation, and while presenting few dangers would, in minimizing the disease, reduce the cost of combating the insidious enemy.

Errors in Municipal Acts Corrected.

At the last session of the Legislature an Act was passed to correct certain clerical and typographical errors in the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897. The following corrections were made in the Municipal Act:

SECTION.	MANNER IN WHICH AMENDED.
Sec. 290, line 6.	By substituting "Sections 537 and 538" for "Section 537." [See s. 537 (1a)].
Sec. 375, line 8.	By substituting "or neighboring" for "neighboring or."
Sec. 539, clause 3, line 11.	By substituting "four" for "five." [See s. 384 (8)].
Sec. 542, clause 15, lines 6 and 7.	By substituting "The Act for the prevention of Accidents by Fire in Hotels and other like Buildings" for "The Liquor License Act."
Sec. 545, clause 3, lines 6 and 7.	By striking out "and the Ditches and Watercourses Act."
Sec. 554, line 4.	By inserting "townships" after "towns."
Sec. 583, clause 15, line 4.	By substituting "clauses 2 and 14" for "clause 14."
Sec. 583, clause 16, line 2.	By inserting after the word "but" the following, "in cities having a population of 100,000 or over"
Sec. 700, line 5.	By substituting "municipality" for "city." [See 57 V., c. 50, s. 17]
Sec. 637, clause 3.	By striking out "or" at beginning of 2nd line and inserting "or" between the words "bridges" and "other," in the same line.
	Assessment Act—
Sec. 158.	By substituting the figures "173" for the figures "170" in 8th line.

Flood Protection Works.

MUNICIPAL ACT AMENDMENTS AT AUGUST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

1. In the case of any river, stream or creek flowing through or in the neighborhood of a municipality, the municipal corporation thereof, for the purpose of preventing damage to property within the municipality by floods arising from the overflowing or damming back of such river, stream or creek, may acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise land in such municipality or in any adjoining or neighboring municipality, and may construct such works thereon or perform such work in respect thereof as they may deem necessary, and may also for the purpose aforesaid deepen, widen, strengthen or otherwise improve such river, stream or creek upon the land so acquired, or remove therefrom islands, rocks or other natural obstructions to the free flow of the water in such river, stream or creek; and may expend such moneys for all such purposes as may lawfully be appropriated therefor by the municipality, or may make such contracts in respect thereof as in the opinion of the council may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid; and the council of any municipality may from time to time pass by-laws for any or all of the said purposes, in the manner provided by the Municipal Act as to the passing of by-laws.

2. In case other lands than those so acquired are injuriously affected by any works undertaken under this section the owners or occupiers, or other persons interested in such lands shall be entitled to compensation, and sections 437 to 447 of the Municipal Act shall apply thereto.

3. For the purpose of obtaining better access to any lands which have been heretofore or may hereafter be set apart as a public park for the benefit, advantage and enjoyment of the people of the province, the minister having the control and management of the said parks and other places shall have all the powers with regard to the taking of land which are conferred on the Commissioner of Public Works under the Act respecting the Public Works of Ontario, but in cases in which it becomes necessary to determine the value of any land by arbitration the county judge of county in which the lands taken are situated shall act instead of the official arbitrators named in the said Act, and while so acting he shall have all the powers which are conferred upon the said official arbitrators.

A certain minister lost his manuscript one Sabbath morning, so he spoke out thus: "I am very sorry to have to inform you that I have—er—somehow or other mislaid my sermon for this morning. I must—er—therefore, trust to Providence for inspiration. To-night I will come better prepared."