

APPENDIX

DISINFECTANTS

Carbolic acid, formalin and corrosive sublimate act very slowly in killing bacilli in moist sputum because they "coagulate" or clot the outer layers of sputum and so wall off the inside parts from the action of the disinfectant. Thus 5 per cent. carbolic acid requires at least twenty-four hours to be effective, even in smears of sputum.

Those disinfectants which dissolve the sputum are best. Lysol in 2 per cent. solution for general purposes, and calcium chloride (chlorinated lime) for spittoons, chambers, and other receptacles containing infected excretions, are best. A 2 per cent. lysol solution should always be on hand, and is made by adding to two and a half pints of water one ounce or two tablespoonfuls of pure lysol. Chlorinated lime is sold in powder form in tins with perforated tops, and is either dusted on the excretions or used in 2 per cent. solution (about one ounce to a quart of water).

DISPOSAL OF SPUTUM

The regular sputum box filler should never be allowed to contain more sputum than fills the lower half up to the small square opening. When this limit has been nearly reached, sawdust should be added to a level with the top of the box. The filler is then removed from the tin box holder and