

Add to that the fact that 50 per cent of all miscarriages are due to syphilis and that this disease kills 80 per cent of all children born of syphilitic parents, and you will have some idea of the influence of syphilis on the death rate.

The deadly consequences of Venereal Disease on the individual and the family, and as reflected on Society are appalling; they inflict on the individual physical and moral sufferings unheard of, and they cause to the family irreparable distress that each day you are a witness to. As regards the social consequences of the venereal plague, they are incalculable, and the figures of comparison are incapable to express them. The terrible past war itself, with all its mortality, was less deadly than this hidden cancer which is silently gnawing at the very vitals of civilization.

Gonorrhea is the cause of 80 per cent of sterility in marriages.

Gonorrhea is the cause of 50 per cent of sterility amongst women after their first pregnancy.

Over 90 per cent of premature births and miscarriages can be traced to syphilis, the offspring, unable to exist in the mother's womb, dies between the second and seventh month and is usually expelled in a macerated condition.

More than 80 per cent of all cases of premature births between the seventh and eighth month are directly due to syphilis, and do not believe that a child of an infected mother comes in this world healthy and with a good chance to live; it is sometimes a horrible monster, the eyes may be lacking, the cranium may be sunk in, and in some cases, one or more of the limbs may be missing. Even when the infant is apparently sound of form and constitution, it usually is the type that dies shortly after its entrance into the world. — (*Gougerot*).

These scourges, if they do not kill the offsprings, make of them a burden on Society, seeing that they are usually blind, mutes, tubercular victims, idiots, epileptics, degenerates, affected with rickets, etc. As to the effect of syphilis on the adults, it usually is the cause of insanity, general debility and various deformities, and what is far more important, it usually diminishes the ordinary span of life of those infected by one third.

In the hospitals for the insane of the states of New-York and Massachusetts, the number of syphilitic inmates is 15 and 24 per cent respectively.

Without contest, these diseases are open wounds from which the life blood of our nation is ebbing. They are also one of the