

Diseases Termed Dangerous

HENCEFORTH consumption is to be reported to the health authorities wherever it may be found within New York State. It is included in the list of diseases "dangerous to public health" which the State Board of Health promulgated to-day. Whooping cough is adopted in the same class. In many towns and cities consumption has been so classed for some years past, but not in all of them, as it was optional with the local health boards to require reports as they pleased. That in the crusade against this and other diseases it is a valuable factor to have a public record of cases that exist is generally conceded. The whole list of diseases placed in this class by the State Board of Health, under authority of an act passed by this year's Legislature, and reported to the State Board of Charity is as follows:

Actinomycolosis, Asiatic cholera, cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, glanders, malignant pustule, measles, scarlet fever, smallpox, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, typhus fever, whooping cough, and yellow fever.

The above action by the State Board of Health, Mass., is a step in the right direction and is one that might be judiciously taken by the proper authorities in our province. But while this, by the engendering of a kind of panicky feeling among the people, might help to prevent the spreading of the disease, it would obviously add to the sufferings of the afflicted. These sufferers must be taken care of somehow, and this is best done in a sanatorium for consumptives. But this again means more generosity—more money—more hospital accommodation.

Texas Tuberculosis Regulations

A special from Houston, Tex., describing the rules issued by the State Board of Health to govern sanitation for tuberculosis, says:

"Tubercular victims are not allowed employment in any public building, in any school, church or bake shop or slaughter house. Burlap is prohibited for a floor covering; passengers on trains are not allowed to wash their teeth over wash basins, and careless handling of ice to be used in water coolers is made an offense.

"Floors of public buildings must be swept every day after being sprinkled with sawdust wet with formaldehyde.

"Boarding house, hotel and restaurant iceboxes must be scoured with acid once a week.

"In jail a prisoner must have 3,000 cubic feet of air an hour, walls must be white-washed every month and painted every six months."

The non-employment feature of these regulations is hard and drastic but not unreasonable. The sin comes in where no provision is made for the excluded victims of the malady. This sin can be avoided only by the organized effort of practical sympathy and capability.

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