

In another house in a different locality five deaths occurred from cancer in one house over a period of thirty years. All these patients belonged to different families. A list of 1,062 houses in Paris in which persons had died of malignant disease was drawn up, and a watch instituted. Already in twelve of them two successive cases of cancer have been noted. Another remarkable series of cases occurred in a short street, not one-twelfth of a mile long, in a small town. The houses in this street were entirely residential, In fifteen years (1893-1908) there died of malignant disease in this street nineteen persons and a dog. Several of the houses accounted for more than one case each. Sir Thomas comments: "As in nearly all the patients there was no hereditary history of the disease, the large number of deaths . . . has suggested that the matter is more than a coincidence." Doubtless many of our readers could multiply instances, not only with regard to cancer, but also other infectious diseases. There are houses, or blocks of houses, in many towns which are always regarded as danger zones, and, though they are repeatedly disinfected and cleansed, if epidemic comes that way; it is sure to find lodgment in these centres. Can anyone explain why?—*The Sanitary Record*.

HAY-FEVER

H. L. Ulrich, Minneapolis (*Journal A. M. A.*, April 18), says that hay-fever does not receive the attention it deserves from the practitioner, and there is a growing conviction that hay-fever not only is a local manifestation, but also involves reactions that bring it into the domain of constitutional disease. He notices the work of Dunbar, who established the fact that it is a pollen toxicosis, though his pollantin is losing favor as a cure. The active immunity induced by Noon and Freeman is mentioned as well as the demonstration by Clowes of the immune bodies of the hay-fever of this country. The clinical picture of the disease is reviewed as described by Bostock, whose description seems, according to Ulrich, to be rather mild in comparison to our autumnal catarrh. Ulrich quotes it, however, to call attention to the irregularity of the symptoms as compared with other infectious diseases which suggest to him more the hypersensibility of nerve and tissue groups to an irregular protein intoxication, the portal of entry of which is the nose. For two years he has been observing ragweed