

the individual in which the germs gain a foothold and flourish once they have found entrance. Preventive measures, to be comprehensive, must be directed to all three factors.

As pointed out by Lawrason Brown, the struggle must be *against the disease* tuberculosis, and *not against the tuberculous patient*. There is at present too exclusive attention paid to the *patient* and too little regard given to the *disease*. This is very good as *treatment and cure* but of little value as *prevention*.

A comparison of the circumstances obtaining in smallpox and in tuberculosis is instructive. Smallpox is an acute disease with a most pronounced and definite onset; the clinical picture of the classic form with its outward terrorizing manifestations, its former high mortality and its traditional horror all make easy the enforcement of the most drastic measures for the limitation of this malady; the very simple and entirely effective protective agency of vaccination likewise simplifies the task; immense expenditure of money, work and suffering are continually directed to the prevention of this disease which in 1909 caused one death in Alberta. On the opposite, with tuberculosis the onset is concealed, unobserved and gradual; the victim instead of being repulsive, becomes in many cases more attractive in failing health; he may not be incapacitated for years; and the necessary preventive measures are so many and so lifelong in application that it is extremely difficult to get the necessary public sentiment and individual effort for the effective treatment and prevention of this destroyer which in 1909 killed 212 Albertans.

Public health work has usually heretofore been regarded as having no value as a political asset but rather as being a necessary evil or a decided nuisance to be abated and not encouraged. In fact the endeavor to protect the health of the people should be pointed to as one of the very best reasons for the loyal support by the electorate for any Government which makes this a definite active part of its policy of administration.

The highest economy and efficiency in public health administration requires the organization of all existing public