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THE PUBLIC HEALTH

A Prominent Chicago Physician, Addressing the Chicago Medical Society, Arraigns Stock Yards Conditions.

He Predicts an Upheaval Among the People Unless Things Change.

Insanitary conditions in the stock yards were severely censured by Dr. Arnold C. Klebs in a lecture on "Consumption and the Home," given in the Public Library under the auspices of the Chicago Medical Society.

"Some day these insanitary conditions out at the stock yards will cause a great upheaval in Chicago," he said. "They are directly responsible for a great deal of the tuberculosis now prevalent in Chicago, and I firmly believe that one of the greatest strides that can be made towards stamping out this terrible disease is to bring about proper conditions at the stock yards."

The Beef Trust will find it hard to get a resting place when the people of this country rise against it, as they surely will. The people of the whole world are crying for its extermination.

Is tuberculosis any better for the people this year than it was last year?

In another column will be found extracts from the Health Department annual report and weekly bulletins. Do you think that in the face of these documents and the facts they contain that the city can refuse to continue the inspection and condemnation of tuberculosis and cancerous cattle at the Stock Yards?

How many concerns make fancy lard for culinary use out of hogs that die of cholera?

How many thousands of carcases have the city inspectors condemned that were found hanging in coolers with the tuberculosis trimmed out?

Where does all the meat that arrives at the Stock Yards at night come from?

Whose packing house was it that the chief meat inspector went into an December 30 last with orders to arrest the President of the concern for stealing cattle that had been tagged and condemned?

Did not the President of this concern surrender 27 condemned cattle that had been thus stolen and hidden away?

How many condemned hogs have been sold as mess pork?

Is it, or is it not so, that some of the cattle condemned by city inspectors have been found with their whole insides one mass of corruption?

Is it not true that the butchers at the yards are afraid to cut some cattle for fear of contracting contagion themselves?

Is it true that many canned cattle are now killed outside the city and their carcases shipped in with tumors and cancers still attached?

Why do Kansas City and other points ship their tuberculous, lumpy-jawed and cancer cattle to Chicago?

Why is it that diseased cattle cannot be shipped to any point east of Chicago?

Why is it, and by whose orders was it that after the city inspectors had condemned 170 lumpy-jawed cattle that they were "released"?

By whose orders was it done?

Is there another city besides Chicago that will even allow a lumpy-jawed "critter" to enter it?

Is it not true that in St. Louis each lumpy-jawed beast means a fine of $500, and that in Toronto, Canada, the beast and even its hide are destroyed?

In view of the fact that the Health Department has officially stated that 85 per cent of the meat condemned by the city was afflicted with tuberculosis, why have the city inspectors been ordered to discontinue the work of condemning and destroying it?

The Beef Trust has caused a big raise in the price of shoes. The alleged beef trust controls incidentally the domestic hide market, which Congress closed practically for the benefit of the beef trust by clapping a duty of 15 per cent ad valorem on foreign hides. The alleged beef trust, according to Associated Press dispatches, now also controls the domestic tanning industry. Hence the beef trust fixes now the cost of the leather, the raw material out of which shoes are made, and hence it controls both the prices of shoes in the domestic market and in the export shoe trade, built up at great expense by our shoe manufacturers.

Furthermore, it is common knowledge that the domestic price of butter, eggs, butterine, dressed poultry, the grains, fruits, vegetables, apples, potatoes and probably other foods is regulated largely by the same trust of corporations.

This is logical and unavoidable at present. It is due in part to special privileges of lower rates in the shipping, private refrigerator lines, immense grain elevators and cold-storage plants scattered at the strategic points and in part, no doubt, to the sheer brutal force of unlimited millions of dollars; a power wielded by a few persons whom society does not hold personally responsible at present.

The Beef Trust will be investigated by the next Legislature.

And what a showing up there will be!

The investigation of the insurance companies by the New York Legislature will not be a circumstance to it.

Chicago's multi-millionaires grown rich selling disease and poison to the people will get their just dues then.

The Chicago Newspaper Trust cannot save them.

The Beef Trust laughs at pure food laws.

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TUBERCULOSIS BEEF.

The General Public Has a Fine Opportunity to Get All It Wants of It.

Health Department Finds Cattle in Trust Coolers with Tuberculosis Trimmed Out.

Tuberculosis is becoming epidemic.

The Beef Trust products afflicted with tuberculosis can be sold without let or hindrance, when past "inspection."

The school management committee of the Board of Education took active steps to prevent children afflicted with tuberculosis from attending school. A report drafted by Superintendent Cooley and Dr. E. D. Dudley was adopted, which provides that when a teacher suspects that any child is affected with the disease it shall be made known to the superintendent of schools by the principal. After the parents of the child are notified the pupil will be examined by medical inspectors of the child study department. Parents will be given permission to have their family physician present at the examination.

The poor children who got the tuberculosis from meat must suffer.

We can see from the Health Department reports that State and government inspection does not prevent tuberculosis beef from getting into the coolers from which the public is served.

The statement that there are 15,000 consumptives in Chicago was made at the annual meeting of the Visiting Nurse Association by Mr. Arthur Aldis, chairman of the tuberculosis committee. Dr. Sachs spoke, urging drastic action by the Board of Health to stamp out the disease.

Tuberculosis is a Beef disease.

It is not hereditary.

It is not contracted from impure air.

It is contracted by eating bad meat sold by sordid and conscienceless men who think more of dollars than they do of human lives.

If any of your relatives have tuberculosis you know who to blame.

The homes saddened by the deaths of husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters,

The people poverty stricken by consumption,

Know who is guilty!

There is a day of reckoning for these barons of blood and tyrants of the Trust!

The Chicago Eagle will keep upon their track until Europe as well as America will be too hot to hold them.

The Beef Trust may control government inspection.

But the insignificant number of city of Chicago inspectors—only 11 in all—although now strangely discontinued—was still sufficient to call attention to horrible facts.

The following from the Chicago Health Department Bulletin of October 28, 1905, speaks for itself:

The city inspectors at the Union Stock Yards condemned "FIVE CATTLE FOUND IN THE COOLERS, WITH A PART OF THE EVIDENCE OF TULERCULOSIS TRIMMED OUT, AFTER HAVING BEEN PASSED BY THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS."

"They also condemned and destroyed 3,093 pounds of cut meats shipped from St. Louis and Kansas City, having passed government inspection at those places."

This shows the sort of government inspection we have.

If a few of the governmental omissions are rectified how many thousands are not?

How many homes in Europe and America are at this moment harboring cuts of meat from tuberculosis cattle?

The above report of the Health Commissioner speaks of meat hanging in the coolers of trust houses, with tubercular tumors "trimmed out" ready to be cut into steaks.

Speaking of the 3,935,000 pounds of food condemned in 1905 by Chicago Health Department inspectors, Dr. C. J. Whalen, Health Commissioner, says in his annual report:

"EIGHTY PER CENT OF THE MEATS WERE CONDEMNED ON ACCOUNT OF TUBERCULOSIS." "Commenting upon this condition (continues Commissioner Whelan), 'American Medicine,' December 23, says: 'One stands aghast at the criminal cupidity which will induce men to attempt to sell such dangerous foods to an unsuspecting community. It is now in order to go a step farther and find out who is responsible for this moral obliquity.

"'It is well known that combinations of the larger meat dealers have existed in the past to the end of raising the price of food stuffs beyond the point to which healthy competition would reduce them. The outcry has always been in protest against the increased cost of living, but here for the first time are the combinations which control the food supply, brought into a direct relation to public health.

"'It is high time that this matter be taken out of the class of minor offenses AND THE DEALERS THEMSELVES LOOKED UPON IN THE LIGHT OF PUBLIC DANGERS. Even in war, when all kinds of brutality are sanctioned, it is the height of dishonor—even murder—to poison the water supply of a country. Is it any better to poison the food supply? It is time that the public mind should develop a conscience in this direction.'"

Speaking of Beef Trust tuberculosis read the following from the Health Department Bulletin, November 4, 1905:

"The total amount of meats condemned during the period was 1,343,343 pounds. Of the principal causes of condemnation, 85 PER CENT WERE FOR TUBERCULOSIS, 12 per cent for actinomycosis—lumpy jaw—and 4 per cent for hog cholera."

Health Department Bulletin, Dec. 9, 1905: "A total of 147,990 pounds of meats was condemned and destroyed (during the past week) under the supervision of the department inspectors at the Union Stock Yards. This includes 4,083 pounds of government-inspected cut meats shipped from packing houses in the West for Chicago city trade and canning."

Health Department Bulletin, November 11, 1905:

"Although the condemnation and destruction of food supplies unfit for human consumption during the past three months—since the resumption of Stock Yards inspection August 7 ult., by order of the Commissioner—have reached immense proportions, much unfit food still reaches the market. Only such animals and meats as show gross pathologic conditions, recognizable by the naked eye, are now condemned. Facilities for microscopic laboratory examination have not yet been restored.

"The Union Stock Yards city inspectors condemned and destroyed 36 parts of beef carcasses, 3 hogs and 6 cattle WHICH HAD BEEN PASSED BY THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS.

"The total stock yards condemnations amounted to 176,808 pounds."

"Parts of beef carcasses!"

In other words it has been and is the practice to cut out the cancers and tubercular tumors and let the rest of the carcass go to the people for food!

And yet we call ourselves civilized.

Health Department Bulletin, Dec. 16, 1905:

"The department has made a new ruling in regard to 'lumpy jaw' or actinomycotic animals. Hereafter all animals that show, on post-mortem examination, a degeneration of the lesion, with cavity formation, containing pus, will be condemned and destroyed.

"Heretofore only those with a general infection were destroyed."

Health Department Bulletin, Nov. 30, 1905:

"Stockyards inspection of meats for Chicago retail markets was resumed by order of the Commissioner of Health on Aug. 7, ult., with two department inspectors employed. On Oct. 7 three additional inspectors were put to work, and Oct. 19 authority was given by the Finance Committee of the city council for the employment of six more.

"Between Aug. 7 and Nov. 30 a grand total of 2,781,197 pounds of food supplies were condemned and destroyed as unwholesome, diseased or otherwise unfit for human food."

Health Department Bulletin, November 25, 1905:

"Condemnations of unfit food during the week:

"At the Union Stock Yards, 68,793 pounds of cattle, hogs, calves and sheep.

"At retail markets 66,739 pounds of beef, ham and poultry."

Health Department Bulletin, Dec. 16, 1905:

"Following is a summary of unfit food condemned and destroyed during the week:

"At the Union Stock Yards—292 cattle, weight 152,509 pounds; 362 hogs, weight 58,838 pounds; 15 calves, weight 615 pounds; 12 sheep, weight 255 pounds; 19,113 pounds cut meats. Total, 231,330 pounds.

"At city retail markets—18,930 pounds of fish; 36 calves, 4 hogs, 2,900 pounds; 2 cattle, 1 sheep, 933 pounds of poultry and dressed meats and vegetables, 1,491 pounds. Total, 21,114 pounds.

"Aggregate condemnations of unfit food during the week, 252,444 pounds."

Health Department Bulletin, Dec. 23, 1905:

"At the Union Stock Yards the following have been condemned and destroyed:

"280¼ cattle, weighing 148,824 pounds:

"356 hogs, weighing 40,475 pounds.

"Cut meats weighing 5,024 pounds.

"15 calves, weighing 855 pounds.

"7 sheep, weighing 260 pounds.

"Twenty-one cattle, nine hogs and 5,024 pounds cut meats were condemned after (passing) government inspection."

Health Department Bulletin, Dec. 30, 1905:

"A total of 198,002 pounds of meats [illegible] demned by the department in[illegible] at the Union Stock Yards [illegible] stroyed under their supervision. At [illegible] tail markets, 3,889 pounds of dressed meats; 24,150 pounds of fish, and 3,086 pounds of poultry, hams and rabbits were condemned and destroyed.

"The Commissioner has issued the following instructions to the chief inspector at the Union Stock Yards:

"'While actinomycosis is usually confined to the head, and may be said in one sense to be a localized disease, and while some inspectors condemn only the part involved, I believe it is safest and most practicable to condemn the entire carcass wherever the actinomycotic abscess opens into the mouth, pharynx, larynx or any part of the digestive or respiratory tract; or when the lymphatic glands are involved; or where there are actinomycotic tumors in the lungs; or when the lesions have become generalized, since generalization in actinomycosis appears to run a very atypic course, making the detection of all foci inside the muscle very difficult; therefore, the entire carcass is to be condemned.

"'In cases where the actinomycotic lesions are positively localized, the infected part may be cut away and the remains of the carcass used.

"'These instructions apply only to "lumpy jaw." There may be other reasons why you should want to condemn a carcass, and it is then a matter of judgment for you and your men. But you should never hesitate to condemn if you believe the animal to be not fit for human food.'"

The most amazing stupidity conceivable of any people with foreheads is that they should allow their supply of food to pass into the hands of one speculative interest, says Charles Edward Russell in a powerful article written by him in the Appeal to Reason. You can understand how a careless community might tolerate a monopoly of some things, how it might endure to have its transportation, for instance, or its electric light, controlled by one ownership, for men can live without sleeping cars or arc lamps; but that it should tolerate a monopoly of the primal necessity of food is beyond comprehension and without precedent. Even naked savages have uniformly been too wise for that, and the only nation that has ever submitted to such a monstrous condition is our own.

From a thousand illustrations of the injuries we all suffer from this idiotic arrangement let us cite one.

There is no way of communicating disease to the human body surer than through infected meat tissue. Some of the worst and most destructive bacilli that prey upon mankind are common among the animals he eats for food. Cows have tuberculosis and spread vast quantities of it through the human population. It is so common among cows that the wise and the forewarned will use none but sterilized milk. What is "hog cholera" among swine is merely typhoid fever in men. Trichinea in hogs poisons human beings. Both these diseases are common among swine.

Worse than all these, and more deadly, is another fact that is seldom commented upon because it is too appalling to dwell much upon. What is called "lumpy jaw" in cattle is simply cancer. The germs of cancer are communicable. Many cattle have "lumpy jaw." Any animal with "lumpy jaw" is unfit for human food.

This opens a field that demands the immediate attention of the government. Cancer is the most terrible of all diseases. After it has reached a certain stage of development it is absolutely incurable. Its progress to that stage may be without the patient's knowledge or suspicion. Its advance beyond that stage cannot even be checked. It slays its victims with the most horrible torture.

In this country the recent increase of this most terrible of human afflictions has been something to alarm us all. It was once rare; it now threatens to become common. In the Cincinnati hospital, in the year 1870-71, the number of cancerous patients was one in 587. In 1904 the number was one in 273. In 1870, when the total population of the city was 216,239, the number of cancer cases reported at all the institutions was 42; in 1900, with a total population of 325,902, the number of cancer cases reported at all the institutions was 198, and in 1903, with about the same population, the number was 267. I append the table that shows this astonishing increase.

Here is a similar report from two well-known hospitals elsewhere:

ROOSEVELT HOSPITAL, NEW YORK.

Year.	Total No. of patients.	Cancer.
1878	1,655	23
1879	1,617	40
1880	1,474	20
1881	1,655	22
1882	2,166	26
1883	2,132	35
1884	2,248	37
1885	2,372	22
1886	2,594	0
1887	2,728	77
1888	2,487	55
1889	2,754	70
1890	2,815	78
1891	2,704	*
1892	2,788	*
1893	2,884	103
1894	2,704	95
1895	3,264	102
1896	3,118	85
1897	3,134	98
1898	3,452	96
1899	3,093	73
1900	3,251	99
1901	3,770	114
1902	3,874	115
1903	3,856	131
1904	4,236	105

*No report.

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL.

Year.	No. treated.	Cancer.
1868-69	2,104	6
1869-70	1,927	8
1870-71	...	...
1871-72	2,176	8
1872-73	2,155	13
1873-74	1,968	17
1874-75	1,974	17
1875-76	1,814	22
1876-77	1,773	16
1877-78	1,652	20
1878-79	1,672	18
1879-80	1,764	15
1880-81	2,179	18
1881-82	2,184	15
1882-83	2,136	17
1883-84	2,186	14
1884-85*	2,206	27
1896-97	2,801	37
1897-98	3,241	68
1898-99	3,867	64
1899-00	...	...
1900-01	...	...
1901-02	...	...
1902-03	4,695	67
1903-04	4,337	61

*From 1885 to 1896 the figures are missing.

These are sample pages from the dreadful records. The trend of medical investigation has been toward the conclusion that the origin of the human cancer infection is to be found in meat. It is no longer held to be possible that cancer or a tendency to cancer can be inherited. The infection is due always to an active agent taken in some way into the system. The meat of cattle afflicted with "lumpy jaw" would be such an agent.

There come to the slaughter houses of the trust, week by week, many cattle afflicted with "lumpy jaw." What becomes of them?

I don't know; you don't know; nobody knows outside of the precincts of the slaughter houses.

And yet there can be no question to a man who desires to live that is of greater importance than this. The operations of those slaughter houses are conducted behind closed doors. No outsider is allowed to glimpse what goes on there. No representative of the public ever gets behind that curtain. You can go there and be entertained with a fake exhibition of fake slaughtering conducted as a public spectacle. That amounts to nothing. The real work no one ever sees but the employes.

What becomes of the diseased cattle? Theoretically they are burned and converted into fertilizer. Who sees the burning? Who knows that it is done or how it is done? Nobody outside of the employes. All we know is that "lumpy law" is cancer; that many cattle have "lumpy jaw;" that "lumpy jaw" is communicable and that cancer frightfully increases.

The London Lancet, the leading medical journal of Europe, sent a man to Chicago to investigate, so far as he could, the slaughtering processes of the trust houses. He returned with a revelation that should have called for government investigation. He declared that the methods employed were most unsanitary. That the work was done in a hurried, careless, slipshod way; that there was no tolerable inspection or sanitary supervision; that the health of the world was menaced by these conditions. To this scathing indictment from a great medical authority no serious defense was ever made. Subsequently, there appeared in Jamestown, N. Y., a remarkable book, "The Dark Side of the Beef Trust," apparently written by an expert, supplementing the charges of the Lancet and enforcing them with such details as could hardly have been supplied by anything but personal knowledge. The whole process of manufacture in the trust houses was followed with minute care and the charge was explicitly made that carelessness reigned everywhere; that impure products were habitually sent out for consumption; that meat fit only for destruction was habitually worked up with spices and drugs to disguise its taste and sold to the public.

To this extraordinary array of specific assertions no answer was ever made.

Here, then, are two witnesses that solemnly declare that the conditions in the trust slaughter houses are exactly such as would allow the meat of "lumpy jaw" cattle to be sent out as food.

Suppose that we take of the matter the most charitable view possible. Suppose we assume that the trust gentlemen are most scrupulous about all the ways in which they make money. Suppose we forget about the soldiers poisoned by embalmed beef, the games of gouge and robbery practiced by the trust refrigerator car lines, the manipulation of a thousand markets for profits, the tribute levied by this combination upon all households in the country. Let us forget that they are law-breakers and money-mad and assume that not one of them would touch a cent of questionable profits.

Still this question stares us in the face: How do we know what becomes of the "lumpy jaw" cattle?

How do the trust gentlemen know?

Their employes are employed to make much money for the trust gentlemen. How do we know the ways in which the money is made?

BEEF TRUST HORRORS.

A Writer Holds This Awful Organization Responsible for the Spread of Cancer

And Also Says that It Is Guilty of Spreading Tuberculosis and Other Diseases.

How do the trust gentlemen know?

Here is a stream of the most terrible infection passing daily within a few inches of the nation's food supply. How do we know that sufficient precautions are taken to prevent contamination?

How do the trust gentlemen know?

They inform us that what goes on behind the walls of their plants is their own affair; that is, their business; they will manage it as they see fit. Whose affair is it, then, if the nation eats diseased meat, if we are poisoned by trichinae, if cancer increases?

Other countries are not so dull as we are about these things. Other countries understand very well the monstrous perils involved in the methods of this monopoly, and, therefore, try to exclude American meats.

To quiet their objections the United States is supposed to keep an inspector upon meat intended for export and to place upon it an official stamp certifying that it is fit for food.

If, then, these are the methods in regard to export beef, about which there is nominal inspection, what do you suppose are the methods about meat for domestic consumption, on which there is no inspection at all?

Why was the Beef Trust allowed to go on year after year violating the law and no attempt made to prevent it?

Why are the laws inert against this criminal organization? Why is a man sent to prison for five years for forging a five-dollar check and these men go free for swindling a nation?

Why do we contribute our dollars year after year to swell unnecessary hoards?

Why are we content to have our food prepared for us in secret under conditions that to any sane mind certainly suggest fraud and treachery?

We are not obliged to have these things if we do not want them. The remedies are simple enough.

As to the "lumpy jaw," the tuberculosis and the cancer, put a stop to private slaughtering. Let all the slaughtering of food animals be done by the State in the light of day, without any of this dark lantern business, on equal terms for all. There are very few private slaughter houses in England. The cities and towns run their slaughter houses under medical inspection. But in England the people do not care to be poisoned in their meat.

And we need not worry about the objection that publicly owned slaughter houses are an invasion of the private rights of business. When it comes to life and death there are no private rights of business. No man has a right to saved profits that he makes by spreading disease. We have gone too far on the road to public sanitation to turn back beause some gentleman's profits are threatened. The State will not allow you to go around with smallpox or to conceal scarlet fever in your house, although each may be strictly your own affair. Compared with cancer, smallpox and scarlet fever are nothing. If the State can take radical measures to stamp out cholera it can take radical measures to stamp out cancer, a million times worse than cholera. If it can provide pest houses for public safety it can provide slaughter houses for public safety. And its duty in the one case is at least as clear as in the other.

Thanks to the Beef Trust methods, cancer numbered 1,191 victims in Chicago in 1905, or 67 more than in 1904—an increase of the rate per 10,000 of population of 2.93 per cent.

The increase in deaths from cancer in Chicago in 1905 over the average for the decade ended in 1904 was 10.1 per cent, and over the average rate of the decade ended in 1884 was 34.1 per cent!

One of the most cunning and desperate deeds of the Beef Trust was the defeat, by Beef Trust methods, of the attempt of the secretary of agriculture to secure 135 additional meat inspectors for Chicago. The secretary asked for $135,000 to pay for 135 inspectors to inspect meats going to Europe—not meats for Americans, for anything is good enough for us. The Congressional Committee, possibly under Beef Trust hypnotic influence, only appropriated $20,000. So the Europeans are in almost as great danger as ourselves.

The pure food laws will, of course, be enforced against some poor little grocer. But against the Beef Trust, never!

The Beef Trust is sending money into Germany to stir up strife and force the government to permit the importation of its meats.

If Mayor Dunne's administration destroyed over 3,000,000 pounds of cancerous and tuberculous meat in five months, by the inspection work of only eleven inspectors, how many billions of pounds of cancer and tuberculosis were fed to the people during the years that there was no city inspection?