

THE TUBERCULOSIS QUESTION.

A Rejoinder by Dr. Hill.

Editor Tribune,
Dear Sir:
Your columns have carried so much in the interests of public health, that I would hesitate to ask room for a reply to my good friend Dr. Christian Johnson, if it were not that he merely repeats in public in your issue of December 2nd, the arguments which he offered in private to me before my address. Since he has seen fit to offer these arguments for public reading, my reply should also be laid before your readers.

First—Dr. Johnson states that there is no urgent crisis in Kandiyohi County calling for immediate action. He quotes Dr. Rains who could find only 5 or 6 cases in Willmar and vicinity. In reply, I would say that the question of the existence of a crisis depends on what is considered a crisis. The official reports for 1913 give nineteen deaths in Kandiyohi County from tuberculosis. Nineteen fatal cases of scarlet fever would call for action if it happened only once, and everyone would demand isolation of the patients to prevent spread. Nineteen deaths from tuberculosis every year is "just the ordinary thing" and so nothing is done about it. Remember also that the existence of nine deaths a year means the existence on any one day in that year of about thirty to forty cases in a dangerous, infectious condition. Nineteen of these die every year, but about nineteen new persons contract the disease from them before they die so that about thirty-eight tuberculous persons in Kandiyohi County would be the reasonable number to expect, who ought to have sanatorium treatment.

As to Dr. Rains' "investigation," it was admitted at the private discussion above referred to by Dr. Rains himself, that his investigation consisted in calling up by phone such physicians as he could conveniently reach, and asking them what cases they had at the time. Two physicians who were present at the discussion stated that they had cases before and since Dr. Rains called up, but did not happen to have any just then. This is the usual result of such telephone investigation. In Blue Earth County (30,000 population) which has one-half more population than Kandiyohi, (20,000 population), there were twenty-two deaths in 1913. The reports of Blue Earth physicians showed twenty-two living cases; but a careful investigation by the State Board of Health resulted in listing by name and address, sixty-six living cases which were found to be in an infectious state, and twenty others which soon would develop to that point. There can be no question that a similar investigation amongst the people, not amongst the physicians, in Kandiyohi County, would show thirty to forty active consumptives in the county capable of giving the disease to others. I do not for a moment doubt the truth of Dr. Rains' figures; but they do not represent the actual amount of consumption in the county; they represent merely the number of cases of consumption which happened to be under the care of the physicians whom Dr. Rains happened to call up on the particular day that he called them.

The question is, shall Kandiyohi County get an immediate carrying twenty deaths a year from tuberculosis on account of lack of proper methods of prevention; and such evidence as Dr. Rains presents is worthless to decide that question; as worthless as counting rain drops on a window pane would be in estimating next year's grain crop.

Dr. Johnson's second argument relates to whether or not it is practicable to isolate advanced infectious cases of consumption for the purpose of preventing spread of the disease. Thirty-five counties in Minnesota think so, and have so voted. Wisconsin did so years ago and is now reaping the benefit in a declining tuberculosis death rate. Minnesota's death rate from tuberculosis has not diminished in twenty years, despite increase in population. Years ago, before the infectiousness of tuberculosis had been as fully recognized as it is today, Newsholme, the great statistician, compiled figures on the tuberculosis death rate of all the great countries of the world. He found some were stationary, some had diminished a little, a few had diminished much. He then sought to account for these differences by comparing the different countries as to wealth, advance in sanitation, general education and all the other things which have been proposed by various enthusiasts as preventing or reducing tuberculosis. He found the diminution in tuberculosis in different countries corresponded with one thing, and one thing only, and that was the degree to which advanced cases of consumption were isolated and so prevented from passing the disease on from one generation to another. Where they were isolated, tuberculosis diminished; where they were not isolated, tuberculosis remained stationary, and every case produced its old average of one case more before it died.

As to Dr. Johnson's unfortunate reference to leprosy, it is true that the method of isolating infectious cases was applied to leprosy with complete success—and exactly the same method, isolation, is applied to every infectious disease which we desire to keep from spreading, including measles, mumps, scarlet fever, chicken-pox, etc. I do not see that the successful use of isolation in leprosy, a disease much more slow, much less infectious, and much less fatal than

tuberculosis, is anything but an argument for, instead of against, its use in tuberculosis or any other infectious disease from German measles to Bubonic plague. Very many more people die of tuberculosis in the United States alone, than die of leprosy in the whole world. There is no comparison between them at all as to the harm done, the lives lost or the need for action in getting rid of them. Tuberculosis is a far worse menace to our people than leprosy.

Dr. Johnson's third argument seems to be that in order to get rid of tuberculosis, we must abolish poverty, overwork, etc., since these are the causes of the disease. In the first place, will Dr. Johnson kindly calculate which is the cheapest, to take care of forty consumptives in Kandiyohi County, the state paying half the expense, or to supply the 20,000 people of the county with cash enough so that they need no one of them ever suffer again from overwork, strain or exposure? Of course he will admit the folly of the attempt to abolish poverty or overwork, or strain, so long as man lives upon the globe, until the Millennium comes. Then his argument means, don't do anything—let tuberculosis continue, since we can't abolish poverty, and won't attempt to prevent infection of well persons from the unfortunate victims now spreading the disease! But has poverty, overwork, or strain anything to do with it anyway? How many poor, hard-worked people do we all know, who have no tuberculosis? In how many rich, well-to-do, care-free families is

this disease rampant? Why did not our pioneer forefathers die of it in the hardships of the early days? Why are we full of it now in Minnesota? Has not Minnesota as much (or more) average wealthy civilization, progress, as any other state? Are not our Danes, Norwegians, Swedes and Germans as well-off, thrifty, progressive and intelligent as any other race? Then why do the Scandinavians and Germans peculiarly suffer from it if poverty and its attendant overwork, strain, exposure to hardship are the chief cause?

Again and again and again we have found the same old facts—tuberculosis is contracted from previous cases of tuberculosis. Swede, Irish, English, German, French, Indian—it matters not what the race or condition of life may be—no race can catch tuberculosis if it is not there for them to catch, every race always gets it in some proportion if they associate with persons who have it.

Dr. Johnson winds up by comparing the city conditions with the rural communities, much to the advantage of the latter. He probably is not aware of the official figures which show that while some rural communities in Minnesota have lower death rates than the cities, some are worse, depending solely upon the amount of infection in each, not upon the conditions of the slum versus those of the country farm. Nor is the much boasted difference very great. Where Kandiyohi has nineteen deaths in a population of 20,000, Hennepin would have 26, not such an advantage for Kandiyohi; while Blue Earth County would have sixteen, better than Hennepin, and better than Kandiyohi; Blue Earth has just secured a sanatorium by popular vote at a general election after the county commissioners had refused to act. Every county which has submitted the question to popular vote has secured a sanatorium.

HIS FIRST CHRISTMAS SURPRISE



John; while Blue Earth County would have sixteen, better than Hennepin, and better than Kandiyohi; Blue Earth has just secured a sanatorium by popular vote at a general election after the county commissioners had refused to act. Every county which has submitted the question to popular vote has secured a sanatorium.

If the question is considered in the light of facts and facts only, the Sanatorium plan will easily be seen the simplest, most direct, most effective and by far the cheapest of any known method yet devised for abolishing tuberculosis. Every method proposed by Dr. Johnson would merely result in keeping it going! Which does Kandiyohi want?

Very sincerely yours,

H. W. HILL,
Executive Secretary.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury
as mercury will surely destroy the eye of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co., Testimonials free.
Sold by Druggists. Price 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Dr. H. F. Porter, Dentistry, Carlson Block—Adv.

HUNTERS EAT OYSTERS

Holland Boys Have Big Hunt and Losers Serve the Supper.

A number of the boys had a hunting party last Tuesday, the losers of which gave an oyster supper Wednesday night at the home of Sam Roelofs.

Those winning with a score of 1600 votes were: Evert and Gerrit Bonnama, Jim and Gerrit Breens, George, Wm. and David Roelofs, Meinert Swartz, Gerrit Duinack, Wm. Hoogeven and John Hebrink.

Those losing with a score of 1500 votes were: Martin and Evert Breens, John Kragt, Henry, Evert and Herbert Roelofs, Jerry Bonnama, Jake, Neal and Abe Berghuis and Tom Dekker.—Clara City Herald.

Too Many "Villes."

It is remarked that Georgeville will soon have to change its name. So Line officials want it changed on account of too many "villes" on the same line. The intention is to have Paynesville unchanged and have Lintonville and Georgeville adopt some other name. Keystone has been suggested in place of Georgeville. If the Post Office department adopts this name we'll soon find ourselves living in the neighborhood of some other town. But it is good old Georgeville all the same no matter what its new name may be.—Cor. in New London Times.

CLARA CITY HERALD

W. J. Ruddy of Willmar was here Tuesday.

Uffer Kleene is in the Willmar hospital where he was operated upon for rupture last week.

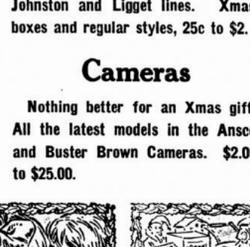
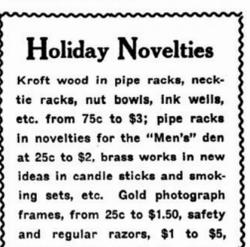
Thos. Johnson of Glencoe was here Tuesday buying up horses which he hopes to sell to the French government which will have agents in St. Paul next Monday to buy horses.

Rev. and Mrs. Imlay arrived Saturday from Stacy, Minn., and he preached his first sermon to the Presbyterian congregation Sunday evening in the Gem Theatre.

A deer which no doubt had been chased from the northern woods by hunters was seen in town of Rheidland last week by the Wearda boys and Bert Scheltens. They gave chase after the animal but were unable to get anywhere near it as it easily leaped over the widest ditches.

Chas. Eakle has been laid up with a sore arm due to blood poisoning. He was assisting his brother in skinning one of the moose which had been shot in the northern woods when he cut his hand and blood poisoning was the result. He is coming out all right under the care of Dr. Maercklein.—Clara City Herald.

Died a Centenarian.
Mrs. Christine Zicka died at Silver Lake, McLeod county last week at the age of 100 years, four months and four days. She was born in Bohemia in 1814, and has resided in McLeod county nearly fifty-five years.



CHOICE HOLIDAY GIFTS

CARLSON BROS.

DRUGGISTS AND STATIONERS

SHOP EARLY

Parisian Ivory
Hand mirrors, \$1.25 to \$5.50; Military brush sets, \$1.25 to \$3.50; Buffers, 50c to 65c; combs, 50c to \$1.50; hair brushes, \$1.00 to \$3.50; desk clocks, \$1.50 to \$5.00; Toilet sets, \$3.00 to \$20.00.

Chinaware and Cut Glass
Fancy decorated and hand painted china in plates, salad bowls, cups and saucers, tea sets, chocolate sets, sugar and creamers sets, dresser sets, nut sets, hair receivers, powder boxes, salt and pepper shakers. A complete assortment of the finest cut glass in water sets, bowls, salt and peppers, sugar and creamers, vases, pickle dishes, nut bowls, trays of all kinds.

Games
Bridge Whist and Five Hundred, Cards and Score Books. Congress Playing Cards in latest design backs at 50c each. Finch, Pit, Bunco and Somer set Games, Roodies, Rook, Chantecler. Checkers and Dominoes in wood; also Card Dominoes. Big line of Games for Children at 5c, 10c and 25c. Stencils, Painting and Drawing Outfits from 10c to 25c. Chess India, Ring Toss, Crazy Traveler, Lotto, etc., in endless varieties.

Holiday Candies
Exclusive dealers in the Guth, Johnston and Liggett lines. Xmas boxes and regular styles, 25c to \$2.

Cameras
Nothing better for an Xmas gift. All the latest models in the Ansoo and Buster Brown Cameras. \$2.00 to \$25.00.

Books
The latest copyrights at \$1.00 to \$1.50; popular copyrights at 50c; the latest boys' and girls' books at 25c to 75c; books for the children at all prices. Beautiful leather bound books 50c to \$2.50; fancy gilt books 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1; Bibles, Testaments and Psalm books in English, Swedish and Norwegian in best leather bindings from 50c to \$3.50.

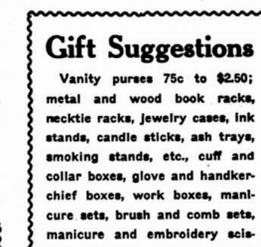
Perfumes and Toilet Waters
The best of the Harmony, Bouquet, Jenise, Palmers, Willows and Hilbert, 50c to \$1.50 an ounce. Package goods in fancy boxes 25c to \$5.00. Toilet Waters in all the latest odors and in fancy packages, 25c to \$2.00. Fancy Perfumes and Toilet Water Atomizers in plain and cut glass, 50c to \$3.00.

The Toy Shop
Fire Engines, Hose Carts, Dray Wagons, Patrol Wagons, Banks, Automobiles, Aeroplanes, Trains and Cars, Stoves, Sad Irons, Whistles and Horns, Magic Lanterns, Trunks, Drums, Tops, Model Builders, Radripticans, Horses, Blocks, Doll Buggies, Doll Beds, Sleds, etc.

Toilet Articles
Toilet sets in Parisian Ivory, Gold with Ivory inlaid and in different woods, \$1.00 to \$20; Manicure sets in Ivory, Pearl, Ebony and plain steel, 50c to \$2.50; Hair Brushes in Ivory and Wood backs, 25c to \$3.50; Clothes and Hat Brushes, 50c to \$2.50; Mirrors in Ivory and Fancy Woods, 50c to \$5.00; Shaving Sets, \$1 to \$5; Traveling Sets, \$1 to \$6.

Post Cards and Photo Albums
Leather and paper covered post card albums 25c to \$3.00. Fancy plush and celluloid albums, 50c to \$2.50. Xmas post cards, 1c, 2 for 5 and 10c each. Our Photo Albums are the latest loose leaf and leather bound all sizes and different colors.

Cigars and Smoker's Articles
50 10-cent cigars.....\$3.50 to \$4.00
25 10-cent cigars..... 2.00
12 10-cent cigars..... 1.00
50 5-cent cigars..... 2.00
25 5-cent cigars..... 1.00
12 5-cent cigars..... .50c
Pipes—Plain and gold banded in nice cases from \$1.00 to \$5.00.
Cigar and Tobacco Jars—Ash Trays and Smoker Sets.



Gift Suggestions
Vanity purses 75c to \$2.50; metal and wood book racks, necktie racks, jewelry cases, ink stands, candle sticks, ash trays, smoking stands, etc., cuff and collar boxes, glove and handkerchief boxes, work boxes, manicure sets, brush and comb sets, manicure and embroidery scissors, reading glasses, scissor sets, 75c to \$3, two, three and four pair of scissors, pocket knives, 25c to \$2.00.

Leather Goods
The latest styles in hand bags 75c to \$5; pocket books, card cases, pass books and bill books; music rolls and folders, 50c to \$3.50; collar and cuff bags \$1 to 4; traveling cases, \$1 to \$7; cigar cases, sofa pillows, pennants, calendars, book marks, table runners and center pieces, etc., etc.

Dolls
Kid bodies, dressed dolls, china dolls, rubber dolls, doll heads, houses, bureaus, wash sets, etc.

Before Sending the Present
Be sure and see our line of Xmas Seals, Tags, Labels, Cards, Holly Xmas Boxes, Twine, White and Colored Tissue.

Carlson Bros. The Rexall Store