

be a sign of longevity, the cosmetic considerations are important, especially in women; and lean persons suffer greatly in winter from cold, and are handicapped in certain diseases. A "lucky thirteen" words stand for relief from hypoliposis: general food-abundance, fats, starch, sugar, breads and cereals, storage vegetables, nuts and dried fruits, abundant water, holiday, indolence, easy outdoor life, medical advice, and a warm climate.

A few remarks about the effect of muscular work upon *digestibility*, meaning thereby the person's ability to digest. In this connection we may bring again to notice a research made by E. C. Wait, published by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, and to be found in Experiment Station Bulletin No. 117. The results found in this research are negative, but none the less they are important in that they confirm what many people have long believed. In the first place, he found no difference in the *thoroughness* of the process of digestion of the food: (a) when the subject was at rest, and, (b) when the subject was walking up and down a hill about four hundred feet high. Common observation corroborates this fact. The second result in this research of Wait's is that he found no constant effect of the climbing on the excretion of nitrogen, which depends upon the relative amount of the intake of food. On the other hand, nerve fatigue and muscle fatigue are apt to cause indigestion, probably from some emotional depression.

Kadegrobow, in his research made on dogs, found that active exercise delayed the secretion of pepsin somewhat. He compared in this research dogs who rested after a big meal with those which then were worked.

Gerhartz's work, found in Pflüger's *Archives*, July, 1910, was along this same line. He found that food consumption was not increased by exercise, and that the protein katabolism was somewhat lessened! He found that violent exercise before eating did not make the dogs eat more. They got their energy for the work out of the carbohydrate part of their food. This research confirms many others showing that carbohydrates and fats are the important sources of muscular energy. The results of this research are contrary to what one might expect at first, for we would expect that the dog that was working hard would eat more than if he had been resting. The discrepancy undoubtedly is temporary, and psychological rather than

metabolic. It is, of course, the common experience that we are distinctly more eager for food and that we eat more of it, after either muscular or mental work. We should develop this conscious guidance.

So much in regard to a few miscellaneous nutritional topics as they are related to physical exertion and exercise. However hard to teach to the world of men and women, assuredly they are of quite basal importance, years on end, in the economic conduct of physiologic life.

THE VENEREAL PROBLEM—THE ARMY VIEWPOINT.

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THE army viewpoint is that between the battle-line of Von Hindenburg and that of venereal disease there is a very real connection. The former is a visible, tangible barrier to the Allied advance upon Berlin, the latter a vast hidden barrier within the ranks of the Allied powers. To reach the German capital requires *men*, and many of them. Men—thousands of men—have already ceased fighting, and been carried in tow, because of venereal disease. This hidden enemy in our midst has long left behind in its wake a spectacle of human devastation, impaired efficiency and wreckage of vitality. Through its ravages many thousands of men have been rendered useless and carried on the liability list through the great battles of the war, through hours when there was a dire need for fighting power.

Three and a half years' observation of the great war have shown this Government that one of its foremost wartime duties is to protect its men from venereal disease. The experiences of the European nations, coupled with those of our own troops on the Mexican border, have been object lessons of singular value. We now know that man-power alone will win the war, and that every unit of man-power that is incapacitated from venereal infection and rendered useless as a fighting force is a greater loss than that of a man killed in action. The former is struck by an enemy from behind before he has had a chance to register an offensive blow, while the latter dies on the firing line, in a grapple with the enemy.

It is the Secretary of the Navy who has stated that, "Venereal disease is deadlier than tuberculosis. It is deadlier than cancer. War itself counts less toll of human life than this infection, whose ravages are more fearful than the Marne, Somme, Verdun, or any other bloody battlefield.

"From every nation comes evidence in support of this statement: Sixty thousand under treatment for venereal disease mentioned in one Austrian report; thirty-five thousand among the German forces during the first five months of their occupation of Belgium; seventy-eight thousand reported in late figures from the British Army; French reports equally disturbing."

Conservation is the by-word of the times. Our people have been widely educated as to the necessity for the conservation of food, fuel, our natural resources and even of human effort. Effective organizations and leaders are operating in these interests. But little enough has been said of the need for the conserving of man-power and for the control of venereal diseases, which constitute the gravest enemy to its conservation. A glimpse of a single national army cantonment with all its intricacies of supply and operation gives a small cross-section view of what merely one phase of war is. The vast human and material resources necessary to the maintenance of the war machine are incomprehensible. Any loss of man-power, attendant upon unnecessary causes, is keenly felt in the operation of this machine. Again it is Mr. Daniels whose words show vividly the effect of just such a loss, when he says that, "During the last statistical year, men of the American Navy lost 141,378 days by such diseases."

A survey of the experiences of the European nations, without quoting any figures of uncertain authorship, shows that hundreds of thousands of men, on both sides, have been incapacitated from venereal infection; that one Allied army during the first year of the war had more men rendered inactive through sex diseases than through wounds, and that numbers equivalent to whole divisions of the Austrian Army have been confined to hospitals for similar reasons.

Germany, a nation dependent for its future progress and position in the world upon the amount and calibre of its population, is clearly alive to the venereal menace, as shown by Neisser's statement that, "The very worst part of the venereal diseases is not the diseased condition

immediately following infection, but the ailments frequently developing in later years, when the war is long past and the old infection already forgotten, and the transmission of the disease to the family after the return of the troops to their homes.

"Certainly we are justified in asking the question: 'Shall we not have cripples and dependents enough to provide for as a result of wounds and hardships?' Cannot the family at least be spared this misery, and the nation this enormous financial burden, brought about by the venereal diseases? And we know how often the seemingly healthy, believing themselves really cured, infect their wives and so frequently make healthy progeny impossible. And yet after this war there is nothing our country will be more in need of than a growing population."

Blaschko, too, properly evaluates the future health of his people by saying that "The venereal diseases, gonorrhea no less than syphilis, are so great and permanent a danger to our people that every blunder, every piece of negligence of which we are guilty today will be bitterly avenged. So many thousands of the flower of our nation are falling victims to the bullets of the enemy that we must guard and value the health of the rest as a dear possession."

From these passages we perceive Germany and Austria alive to their after-war need for fit man-power. From other German and Austrian sources, which I have not time to quote, we find an analysis made of the problem of prostitution, and we see the rapid passing into obloquy of the theory of the efficiency of reglementation and segregation of prostitution, and we find also that the enemy nations have learned to recognize the menace of alcohol, prostitution and the theory that sexual indulgence is necessary to health. The prevalence of this latter theory has done much to keep universally alive a tolerated traffic in prostitution.

Yet we do not need to turn to the map of Europe to be taught this lesson. The experiences of American troops on the Mexican border during 1916 furnished an adequate and more keenly felt lesson.

It is wise to turn for information to an authoritative report, that of Dr. M. J. Exner, on "Prostitution in Its Relation to the Army on the Mexican Border."

Summarizing the situation, Dr. Exner writes, in part, that, "The experience on the Mexican border shows that, so long as the handling

of the problem of prostitution, as it affects the army, is left to the discretion of the individual commanders, there can be no hope of a satisfactory solution. Their attitude is too varied, and their knowledge of the problem too backward. There is need of as clearly defined a policy of moral sanitation, as the government has of physical sanitation, and that policy must be made effective in uniform procedure through military order from headquarters. Any policy with reference to this question, to be sound or effective in preserving the moral integrity of the soldier, must be based on the assumption that sexual indulgence is unnecessary.

"Prostitution in relation to the army is a question with which the citizens of this country, as a whole, must more fully concern themselves, for it is not likely that the army will proceed in advance of public opinion and demand."

Likewise, Dr. Exner narrates the proven menace of alcohol to the troops on the Mexican border.

The experiences of United States troops have thus shown again, in no uncertain terms, the threefold menace of alcohol, regulation of prostitution and the theory of the necessity for sex indulgence. The lessons of the European War have now been supplemented by those learned on American soil and among American troops.

On the fifth of April came the declaration of war. On the eighteenth of May came the approval by the House of Representatives of the so-called Selective Service Act, Section 12 of which embodied the prohibition of the sale of liquor to soldiers. And now, early in February, has come a further drastic and highly effective regulation making it a crime to give, serve or knowingly deliver liquor to a soldier in any place other than in a private home to bona-fide guests. As a result of this new measure, no longer is it necessary to prove a sale of liquor to a soldier by a boot-legger. The mere giving of it on his part, or on the part of any kind-hearted hotel waiter or female escort, is sufficient for arrest and federal prosecution. Every American should take pride in the thorough protection thus accorded its fighting forces by the Government.

Section 13 of the Selective Service Act empowers the President, through the Secretaries, to take such measures as are by him deemed necessary to prevent the setting up or keeping of houses of ill fame in the vicinity of any military establishment. The Secretaries of War and the Navy, since that time, have designated

five miles as an effective radius about each military and naval station in which this practice shall be prohibited.

Underlying these measures there lies the firm belief and avowed principle of the President and the Secretaries that sexual continence is compatible with health and is the best and only sure preventive of venereal infection.

Thus government regulation has struck a blow of no uncertain force at the three-cornered menace, and the country at large is now aware that in these matters the Government has been guided only by principles of idealism and humanity.

Twenty years hence America will be aware of the importance of these steps when she surveys the effects of the World War and realizes that among her own sons the amount of venereal disease is considerably less than that among the sons of Britain, France, Germany and Austria. Future generations of America's manhood and womanhood, free from the burden of widespread venereal infection, will rightfully bear everlasting gratitude to the leaders of today, who saw the need for preventive legislation, and to the Secretaries of War and the Navy for their clear-toned dicta and their organization, in a fashion not known to other nations, of all possible forces for the protection of our fighting men.

Illegitimacy, sterility and blindness, and other maladies which are the after-effects of syphilis and gonorrhea and which reach out "to the third and fourth generations" to claim their toll, will be materially decreased by this crusade for continence. The burden of our posterity is today being made lighter. Morality is coming to the fore. It is being recognized as an essential. The people of this land are willing to endure the normal ravages of war, and in that to play their full part, but they refuse to allow America's manhood and womanhood to prostrate their virtue in the stress and recklessness of the hour. War is a ghastly thing at best; it strips a nation of its men and resources, and halts its normal progress. Nevertheless, war is heroic and justifiable in proportion to the worth of the cause it is fought for. Yet how much more ghastly if it must inevitably take its toll of the nation's standards of morality, the eternal qualities that make life worth living. And it is America's mission not merely to win the war, but to win it with a manhood and womanhood which have stood the test of battle and inward struggle, and have emerged unbesmirched and

by fire refined. The body of the nation is ready for the sacrifice, but the soul—never!

From the experiences of the European nations America can profit much, and as she takes her place beside the gallant British, French, and Italian forces, she is able to guard against evils which have done much to undermine their vitality and fighting power. Today as we survey the situations on the Russian, French, and Italian fronts and contemplate the fact that thousands of troops are on the inactive list from venereal infection, we cannot but wish that those men might now be fit to fight, fit to stem the tide of the enemy onslaught. The lesson strikes home to American hearts, and the prevention of the development of any such inactive list of American troops is now the assumed responsibility of our Government.

Since the declaration of war, from one end of the country to the other, there has been in progress a general internal house-cleaning for the safeguarding of our fighting forces. Numerous "Red Light" districts have been closed, the illegal sale, and just recently the gift, of liquor to soldiers has been carefully watched and, to a large extent, reduced, and gambling has been curbed. Nowhere has a tolerant attitude toward these three types of vice been allowed, and for their repression, coöperation between local, state, and national forces has been necessary and generally secured. San Antonio, San Francisco, New Orleans, Little Rock, Newport News, Newport, Boston, Portland (Maine), and other localities have come in for their share of criticism, but have rallied in true American spirit to eliminate their shares of the nation's menace, and have, with one accord, rejoiced in the results and have learned to realize, in the words of Major Bascom Johnson, Director of Law Enforcement for the Commissions on Training Camp Activities, that "Municipal house-cleaning, like domestic house-cleaning, requires constant vigilance." With the elimination of the Barbary Coast in San Francisco, and the closing of the noted New Orleans "crib" district, the "Red Light" district becomes almost a thing of the past, and certainly a thing generally condemned.

This house-cleaning alone has been inadequate. Along with it preventive measures have been necessary. General education on venereal diseases, on the facts of prostitution, and on the urgent need for conserving the vitality of our American men and women has advanced at a

rate that is unprecedented, and due only to the nation's unity of purpose and eagerness to face facts, when the failure to face them spells impaired efficiency, and the prolongation of the war. We find men and women and young people commencing to talk about venereal diseases with unabashed countenances; we find factories beginning to educate their employees on the menace of the venereal diseases and the need for the treatment of them; we find these factories, in some cases, supplying such treatment, and we find civil communities ready to establish venereal clinics, state and local health authorities and legislative bodies ready to declare venereal disease rightfully reportable with other communicable diseases, and we find the accelerated manufacture and distribution of salvarsan for the treatment of the increasing number of cases coming to light. For example, California has appropriated \$30,000 annually for the duration of the war for a Bureau of Venereal Diseases, and by the end of the first year of the war the municipalities, counties and the state will have expended \$100,000 on this program in all its phases; Massachusetts and Connecticut, beginning February first, have placed venereal diseases upon their reportable list, and the former is manufacturing salvarsan at the rate of 3500 doses a month for distribution to approved clinics. The Massachusetts program also provides for the establishment of venereal clinics under probable state subsidy in twelve cities of the Commonwealth. The city of Newport News, Va., in close proximity to Camp Lee, after vigorous repression of prostitution and the resulting complete overtaxing of the local jail facilities, has found it necessary and expedient to demand the purchase of a city farm to accommodate and salvage the large number of apprehended prostitutes. This series of developments is indicative of nation-wide progress.

Within the Army itself increasing success is being attained in combating venereal diseases. The Surgeon-General of the Army has gathered about him a Rotary Commission of experts to advise on venereal disease treatment and control, and in each cantonment and camp genito-urinary specialists and syphilologists are stationed to administer treatment and carry out control.

Bi-weekly and, in some cases, weekly inspections ("short-arm" inspections) are held to uncover new cases, occurring at unannounced

times to prevent the concealing of symptoms by the infected men.

The men are required to attend compulsory lectures by experts on these subjects; each organization commander is also required to inform himself on the subject of venereal disease and to instruct his men accordingly; approved literature is distributed to every man, in some cases each man being required to display, at kit inspection, a printed card warning him against the diseases; poster exhibits, stereomorphograph, automatic lantern-slide projection machine and motion picture films on social hygiene are being used and being prepared for use among our fighting men. Early (prophylactic) treatment is given to men who have exposed themselves to infection, a remedial and preventive procedure that is readily understood if approached in the right light, and the purpose of which I shall briefly explain.

Once a man has been so unfortunate as to have exposed himself to possible infection by consorting with a prostitute or any loose woman, he becomes not only a possible carrier of infection, but a possible loss to his fighting organization. His infection must be eliminated at the start or prevented from developing by early treatment, and he must likewise be maintained as a fighting unit. His case must be regarded as a medical problem, as a potential source of danger to his fellow soldiers, and he must furthermore be regarded as a needed unit of man-power. Once he has exposed himself to infection it befits the army to fulfil its obligation to protect its men from exposure to every focus of communicable disease. Every mother who sends her son to the ranks expects him to be safeguarded from such exposure, whether the focus be one of smallpox or syphilis. In the administering of early treatment, or prophylactic treatment, at every regimental infirmary and at stations established for the purpose in the nearby cities and travel gateways, such as we have in Boston, Lowell, and Ayer, the venereal rate is in a measure reduced because the infection is nipped in the bud. The effectiveness of this practice is further insured by a military requirement that the soldier must report for this treatment after exposure to infection, and that he shall be court-martialed if he later develops infection and has not previously reported for the early treatment. Thus a penalty is placed upon the man who, after indulging himself, and exposing himself to infection, takes it upon himself to endanger the

well-being of others by a refusal to receive this early treatment.

This practice is compatible both with principles of medicine and morality. The matter here for concern is one of safeguarding or restoring fighting efficiency and elimination of disease, and one which must be freed from entanglement with moral issues. It is the function of the constructive and moral forces to prevent the exposure from occurring, to prevent the individual from seeking unwholesome diversion by supplying the wholesome in its stead.

The Army and the Navy regard the construction and preventive side of the problem as the most important, and upon that side endeavor to provide for the soldier wholesome recreation and counter-attractions to keep him from a desire for harmful pleasures. Morality, continence, idealism and practical religion are inculcated in the troops by the appeal and example of the officers, by the Y. M. C. A., by the Knights of Columbus, and the chaplains; recreation, athletics, amusement and instructive pursuits are supplied by these and other organizations working in the camps and in the extra-cantonment zone and in the towns and cities slightly removed from the camps.

And this leads into the field of the Commissions on Training Camp Activities, appointed by the Secretaries of War and the Navy for the purpose of keeping themselves informed as to prostitution and the illegal liquor traffic in camp environments, and of suppressing this dual evil, and for the purpose of unifying, coördinating and supervising all the agencies operating for the welfare of the soldier and sailor. These Commissions have been effective in obtaining a full measure of law enforcement and approved recreational activity within and in the vicinity of military camps and naval stations.

Reducing the highly organized work of these Commissions to their simplest terms, it is their function to see that the men are properly safeguarded from moral hazards from the time they leave home as civilians to join the ranks until they are returned again to civil life. To effect this result this comprehensive, constructive, preventive, and repressive program has been evolved.

America expects great things of her soldiers, and in no war has she expected more than in the present titanic struggle. It is the nation's duty to her defenders to return them home healthy in so far as this is humanly possible.

Father, mother, wife and sweetheart are waiting to welcome the boys home and the Government is now endeavoring to safeguard the happiness of this home-coming moment.

The Surgeon-General of the Army has taken a pioneer stand in the combat against venereal diseases, and, among other preventive and repressive measures, has organized a group of his officers to work in the extra-cantonment areas for the prevention of venereal disease. These officers are members of the Sanitary Corps, assigned to the Venereal Disease Section of the Division of Infectious Diseases of the Surgeon-General's office. In the control of venereal diseases in so far as the work of these men necessitates law-enforcement measures to combat prostitution and the illegal sale or gift of liquor, these officers cooperate with the Law-Enforcement Division of the Commission on Training Camp Activities. It is their function also to enlist civilian cooperation in combating venereal diseases, through the establishment of venereal clinics and the necessary institutions for the treatment and confinement of the convicted prostitute and incorrigible patient, through the institution of adequate medical and legal machinery, through local vigilance committees, through educational measures and social service follow-up work with girls detained, or arrested, by the police, and of girls supposed to be sources of venereal infection.

Following up the reported sources of infection of a soldier or sailor and ridding the civil community of this focus of infection is a new but important ramification of the venereal disease program of the Army and Navy. Among the venereal patients at the regimental infirmaries and at the base hospitals in many of the Army cantonments, and similarly in the Navy, the system is now in vogue of questioning the patient as to the source of his infection. In many cases it is possible to obtain from the infected man the name and address of the woman from whom the infection was acquired, and in these cases the civil community has a fixed responsibility to insist upon the treatment of these sources. The destructive power of this focus of disease is more than the equivalent of a rapacious enemy in our midst, and there is no community that cannot do an additional bit toward winning the war by determining who are these dangerous disease carriers and by placing them out of reach of our present or future fighting men.

In following up the cases stated to be sources of infection the case worker generally meets either a young and ignorant girl or a professional prostitute. In the former case it is the policy to use persuasion to get the girl voluntarily to receive treatment. If she realizes that state and federal officials are interested in her case and that public opinion is rapidly demanding her treatment she may wisely accept it; but in the latter case of the hardened professional prostitute it will often be found necessary to obtain police observation of the case for commission of a court offense, which is generally not difficult to obtain.

This type of work is new, and machinery to handle it must be developed as the work progresses. Public opinion seems to incline toward the view that the infected incorrigible woman and the professional prostitute are a sufficient menace to public health to warrant their arrest and forced detention and treatment.

The following social case history sheet is in use at Camp Devens:

Base Hospital, Camp Devens, Mass. Venereal Section.			
SOCIAL CASE SHEET.			
Date	Diagnosis { Laboratory Clinical	Rank	Unit
	Patient's Name	Number	
	Date of Exposure to Infection and of First Symptoms		
	Source of Infection—Woman's Name and Address, if possible		
	Would patient be willing to identify her?		
	Was she paid? (in any way, monetary or otherwise)		
	(State particulars.)		
	Ascertain all facts in reference to woman believed to be the source of infection. The following facts should be included:		
	Age		
	Social Condition		
	Occupation		
	Single, married, divorced, widowed		
	Had either the patient or source of infection indulged in alcohol at the time of infection?		
	Did infection take place in a house of prostitution? (Give particulars)		
	What venereal prophylaxis was used and by whom was it administered?		
	How long after exposure was venereal prophylaxis used?		
	Do you know of other cases infected from the same source?		
	Did the proprietor or keeper of the house know the room was to be used for immoral purposes?		

I have not discussed how this whole program is to be executed among our armies overseas. There the problem will be an increasing one, one where policing and repression will probably dominate over prevention and education. Suffice it to say, that every effort will be put forth to carry overseas the Government's present comprehensive program.

Some are prone to believe that the venereal rate in our army is immeasurably higher than it is. The rate in all branches of our Army is not high, and its continued decrease is indicative of the progress being made by real preventive and repressive measures. For example, during the initial three-month period of the life of our National Army, the combined venereal rate per thousand men of the Regular, National Guard and National Armies was 121.9. The individual rate per thousand men of the Regular Army during that period was 88. The rate per thousand in the National Army was 162.4. Thus it can be seen that there were approximately double the number of venereal cases among the drafted men that there were among the regulars. This is a startling fact. Likewise, after four months of the life of the National Army the rates in these two armies were nearly the same, and after the drafted men had continued under military discipline the admission rate for venereal disease became normal, and lower than that among the regulars.

The lesson of this is clear. The National Army is a body of civilians recently transformed to the military, and the venereal rate among them, picked men, is by no means in excess of the prevailing rate among the present civil population. And the reason for this is clear, yet only now being realized. The soldier is carefully educated as to the nature and ravages of venereal diseases, measures are taken to prevent his seeking irrational diversion which might cause infection, and furthermore he is treated immediately upon his falling a victim to any of this group of diseases, while the civilian, as a general rule, has not only been ignorant as to the nature of the diseases, but also as to the method of cure. The amount of unnecessary disease, suffering and unhappiness attendant upon this state of ignorance is appalling, and consequently one of the immediate needs of the time is for a widespread enlightenment of the public upon the facts. At last this is coming. Progress in this respect since the fifth day of April, when America entered the lists, indicates

that the public is not only willing to face the facts, but also demanding them. The origin and center of this education should be in the home, where father and mother by a gradual process should impart to son and daughter facts they should know. This essential, I believe, has been largely disregarded by most present-day parents. Furthermore, there is no organization, institution or public organ that cannot and should not take a common stand in furthering this program. Society today calls upon the government, the press, the church, the school, the judiciary, the health department, the manufacturer, the employer, the men's club and the women's club to assume positions of leadership in this regard, for each of these institutions is responsible in a measure for the welfare of those who come within its reach.

Taking the city as a unit, every man, woman and young person should know the facts of the case, and every city should have at least one reputable, authorized venereal clinic for treatment of those diseased. Yet this whole program of education and treatment will advance no more rapidly than warranted by the stimulus of public opinion.

In the fight against yellow fever, led by Surgeon-General Gorgas of the Army, it was public opinion which determined the measure of success achieved. The fight against venereal diseases, also sponsored by him and conducted with the same strategy and thoroughness, is again dependent upon public sentiment for its advancement. Each of these crusades has resolved itself into a question of method. To combat venereal diseases some adhere that it is better to hide one's head in the sand with the ostrich in an attempt to dodge the facts and conceal the danger. But, fortunately, the national and world crises and the immediate need of conserving man-power have shown this class of reticent and excessively immaculate individuals that they and the ostrich too can make a better fight in the open and in full view of their adversary.

The responsibility of the civil community to the Army and Navy, as well as to itself, is first of all to conduct a thorough campaign of education upon the nature and danger of venereal diseases, and this campaign may well furnish a platform of unity for the government, the press, the church, the doctor, the employer and the lay organization and club.

Secondly, the enforced treatment of all known infected individuals should be instituted and,

along with this, there should be an attempt made to locate all existing foci. This requires legislation or regulation making venereal diseases reportable with other communicable diseases, it requires the establishment of approved clinics for treatment, operated preferably at night under trained personnel, including one or more workers to follow up individual cases. It requires legal machinery also to put the quack and charlatan out of business and also to prevent the druggist from prescribing for a venereal disease.

Law enforcement is the third essential. Where prostitution exists and where illegal liquor traffic exists, no matter how mild it may be or under what subterfuge it is able to operate, either or both must be stamped out. However spotless a town or city may be,—and each citizen is apt to take a millennial view of his own town,—somewhere there can be found work for the vigilant law enforcer. He will generally find that the existing legal machinery and prevailing legal attitude are inadequate to cope fully with the increasing problem.

When vice is repressed, a substitute must be supplied to interest those who before were attracted by its accessibility and superficial glamour. Consequently there has developed the need for properly supervised amusement, recreation and counter-attractions of all kinds. This preventive principle of the counter-move has developed mainly in connection with the military and naval camps, but it is equally applicable to civil life. Why should not every large community maintain as a part of its permanent government an expert on recreation and an expert on vice repression?

It is gratifying to note that, under the impetus of the war, civil communities are operating along these four lines. Ten peace years could not have brought us the progress in this respect that one year of the conflict has done. From all sides we hear an increasing demand for facts. Soldier and civilian alike have a right to know the truth. Education, prevention and treatment are accorded the soldier of today. Why should they not also be accorded the civilian of today who is to be the soldier of tomorrow? The present drafted army has a venereal rate in excess of that of the regular army, and the second five hundred thousand of drafted men may be expected to maintain a rate correspondingly high unless the civil community assumes the responsibility of reducing it.

Prostitution and its counterpart, venereal disease, constitute a problem of hygiene and morality. On the hygienic side it is imperative that we locate infection, treat it and cure it. From the standpoint of morality we are challenged to prevent prostitution, to conserve morality and to stimulate idealism. The two phases are closely interwoven; the medical man and the moralist are working toward the same goal, the elimination of the social evil. Hence their efforts should be coöperative. The medical aspects of the problem have been treated at some length, but the moral side is of the greater import. In this crusade of treatment, repression, prevention and education we are battling for the fitness of our future generations, to give posterity a past to be proud of, unblemished physically by disease and morally by incontinence and the spirit of personal abandon. We are fighting to keep future generations out of blind homes, to reduce our syphilitic population (now eight per cent. of the total), and our large body of insane. We are fighting to prevent the broken hearts of American parents and the physical and moral wreckage of their descendants. Is this a fight which can be won by any sanitary regulation or pragmatic philosophy? Can it be won by anything short of the dynamic of a powerful idealism, which is inherent in every last one of us and which we may well cherish—in the words of Major Edward L. Keyes, Jr., with the knowledge that “our ideals are essential to the progress of our race.”

The issue of the hour is the winning of the war. Anything which impedes the earliest possible attainment of this end is the nation's menace. Conserving food, fuel and other resources is now engrossing the people's attention because these are immediately essential to the conduct of the great war enterprise; but of relatively greater importance, though less widely understood because hitherto concealed, is the immediate need for the control of venereal disease, as a direct conservator of *men*, as a means of adding power to the impending Allied drive upon the enemy, which is to scatter Hindenburg and his forces in retreat upon Berlin.