

after case where the disease was well entrenched it has been utterly driven out. Listen to the statistics. In 1904 there were 200 out of every 100,000 dying annually from tuberculosis; - in 1921, 17 years later this terrible toll had been cut in two, reduced to 100 deaths in every 100,000. But at the very moment that those who had been fighting so long and hard against the disease were rejoicing over this result, they were startled to find that one group of working women were suffering more from tuberculosis than they ever had before. This was the group made up of young girls from 15 to 19 years of age. This ^{was true} was found to be true in every industrial country which keeps careful statistics. Our young girls who go into factories are falling victims in increasing numbers, to the Great White Plague, and they are the only group of workers that is so suffering. Why is this so? They go to work too young. Their resistance to the germ is far less than it will be later. They go to work without proper knowledge of the dangers that await them. Young and careless, whatever instruction they may have received has fallen on heedless ears. Their chief concern is their pay envelope, and to get that, even with a pittance in it, they are willing to run all sorts of risks.

Their parents are, as a rule, both too ignorant and too hard pressed to concern themselves with the conditions under which their daughters are working. ~~They do not even realize that their homes are not proper places for health.~~ When it is discovered that the girl has been attacked, too often there is nobody that knows what should be done.

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I don't know how many pairs of ears have staid by me through this little talk, but to all those who are still listening, let me say - I thank you.