

TIME TO CLEAN UP.

It would seem that sufficient warning of the necessity of cleaning up the cities throughout the country had been given, and that ways and means for so doing would have been made long before this. The cholera scare, which set everybody to thinking, devising plans to be followed in case of a spread of the disease in this country, was soon over. The local authorities of Kansas City had begun to talk about doing something, and it really looked as though they might, if the scare should continue long enough. But the scare was soon over, here as elsewhere, and everybody settled down into a state of self-satisfied security; and there they are still at rest.

There is an almost absolute certainty, according to the authorities on such subjects, that we are not yet through with the cholera. The revival of the scourge in various parts of Europe, in the very midst of winter, is taken to be proof that the fears that were expressed during the summer regarding the danger to America the coming season are to be verified. There is the possibility that a strict quarantine will keep it out.

Dispatches from New York on the one side and Mexico on the other tell of the outbreaks of typhus fever. Schools have been closed in many places on account of the presence of diphtheria as an epidemic. These are all diseases which feed upon sanitary neglect. It is an additional warning to clean up, and to neglect it and go on with city streets reeking with nastiness is a crime.

The authorities of Kansas City say there is no money with which to even make the thoroughfares of the city passable for the traffic of its commerce. But that is an old story. There are ways to provide money and it should be done without a day's unnecessary delay. Never since the principal thoroughfares of the city were first paved have they been in such a disreputable condition. Filth abounds, and it is an invitation for the coming of these filth-loving diseases that will have its reward if allowed to continue.