

POISONED BY ICE CREAM.

Children of L. A. Herrick Sick—
Bought Ice Cream of a Street Vender.

The itinerant ice cream vender has got in his work early this season. Saturday afternoon a boy named Lehman, living at No. 139 Front street, had the two little children of L. A. Herrick, who lives at No. 2 Kilbourn court, upon the street to entertain them and he bought for them and for himself one cent's worth of ice cream each from an Italian push-cart vender. The vender gave the cream to the children on pieces of paper and they licked it off. Saturday was a warm day and the ice cream was sweet and cold and tasted good. The effects were not so pleasant, however.

Later in the afternoon the older Herrick boy, not quite four years old, was taken very ill and Mrs. Herrick sent for her husband, who works at William Westphal's tobacco warehouse. He called in Dr. Charles E. Morris and before the doctor reached the house the younger boy, not quite two years old, was also taken ill, and both children were suffering intensely. Dr. Morris found every indication of poisoning, the children being in convulsions. The younger one was dangerously ill and at one time during the evening it seemed as though the child must die. The remedies availed, however, and both children came out of the trouble and yesterday were well.

Dr. Morris made an investigation as to who sold the cream, and the Lehman boy, who was also ill from the effects of the cream, thought he could recognize the Italian vender if he should see him on the street again. He had not been recognized up to yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Herrick, who is an intelligent young man, said that the Italians who make ice cream to sell on the streets in small lots never buy ice, but hang around the cold storage warehouses, the breweries and refrigerator cars and gather the ice that is thrown away upon the ground and into all sorts of filth and use it to freeze the cream. Of course this is not intentionally brought into contact with the cream, but by leakage in the freezer or overflow of the ice into the can deleterious matter might have gotten into the cream. There is more than a possibility that the can, not having been used since last season, was not properly cleansed before the ice cream was made in it. The licking of ice cream from scraps of paper with printing ink upon it, or other foreign substances, would not be considered the most sanitary method of eating it by medical experts.

There are dozens of ways in which to account for the poisoning, but the vender having been discovered and brought to account might be a warning against other vendors to keep the materials from which the cream is made, and the utensils in which it is made, clean and wholesome. Too much care cannot be exercised over the summer appetites of children, and if ignorant parents are unable to protect them the board of health authorities will be forced to make regulations that will.