

would enormously increase the pollution of the lake water outside and, by so much, increase the danger from pollution of even filtered water.

I have long held essentially these views of the whole situation, and no recent developments have occurred to cause any material change in them. As to how best to arrange the distribution of the trunk sewers, the receiving tanks, to obtain the power for pumping economically, and to arrange the sewage farms, I have formulated views which have a practical bearing both on the economy of their construction and efficiency of their operation; but as your request does not necessarily include these within the scope of a reply, I need not burden this article with any suggestions.

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The question of the sewage disposal of Toronto is practically quite inseparable from that of its water supply. The new steel conduit across the island, and its extension into the lake, with the tunnel now under construction, indicate that for some time at least the city will obtain its water from Lake Ontario, at or not far distant from the present intake. Any remarks that I may make will, therefore, only refer to existing conditions as to water supply, and, at the outset, I may say that on several points the available data are insufficient to justify any definite expression of opinion.

In a communication of this kind it is impossible to deal in anything but a very general way with the momentous questions involved, but the principle may be laid down that no plan can be considered which has for its object the deposition of raw sewage in the lake. Such would be a direct violation of modern sanitary practice, and most likely be at once disapproved by the government. More than this there would be a real danger that sewage deposited at a distance of say three miles east of the city would, under certain conditions, find its way to the water intake. The sand carried from Scarborough Heights by any eastern storm, and deposited along the island shore to its extremity opposite the Queen's Wharf, is perhaps sufficient proof of this. Additional evidence of the effect of easterly and south-easterly winds in contaminating the city water is afforded by the records of scores of bacteriological examinations which I have made during the past fifteen years. All of these point to sewage pollution, characterized by the presence of the colon bacillus. This contamination apparently originates in material