

pure air, where, as a celebrated physician said, "the greatest bungler cannot kill, in place of having them in crowded parts of towns, where the most skilful surgeon cannot cure." Then hospitals for the poor should be cheap, and not on the London scale of £1,000 per bed, plus furnishing and administration, where the cost of a poor patient's bed in interest on the outlay is more in amount than any wages the occupant ever received.

SANITARY WORKS AND LOCAL RATES OF DEATHS.—It has become usual to credit sanitary work, such as sewerage, draining, and improved supplies of water, with the observed reduction of deaths in the district, and I am not inclined to repudiate this, as I believe that good sanitary works tend to promote comfort, prevent sickness, and prolong life; but I also see other powerful influences at work on this great and most interesting problem; namely, education, increase of temperance amongst all classes, better wages to the artisan workers, shorter hours of labor, cheaper food, cheaper clothing, and a wider-spread sympathy of class with class. And woe to those men who, through the press or other means, use their evil influence to set class against class, or to keep them apart.

Much has been done in town sewerage and in bringing in improved supplies of water, but of what benefit are these to the unfortunate dwellers in single-room tenements? Because for their occupants, these sanitary works have no practical meaning. Water, to be of practical use, must be within the tenement, and constantly at command. There must, of course, be sink and drain to remove it. Soil-pan accommodation must be near and available, and these, as in solitary prison cells, may be in a recess to be at all times available. When tenements for honest working men are as well provided for as cells are for criminals we shall be a wide step in advance. But single rooms for families ought to be illegal, as it is impossible to have decency with a family under such conditions....

To compare rates of mortality equitably fuller details must be given than are usually set forth. The site of the town, its age, its arrangement of streets and houses, the occupations of the people, their status in society, and the form of government they are under. Men are very much what their surroundings make them; paupers perpetuate pauperism; criminals perpetuate criminals; and beggars perpetuate beggars, and if uncared for by the government they are born under, will do so to the end of time. State laws and regulations must embrace every member of the State, and deal with him equitably. The idle man must be shown that to eat he must work, and the rogue that to have his liberty he must be honest.

UTILISATION OF TOWN SEWAGE.—Since 1857 there have been three Royal Commissions appointed to inquire and report 'as to the best modes of distributing the sewage of towns and applying it to beneficial and profitable uses.' Of the last Commission the Right Hon. Lord Bramwell was chairman. Of the 1857 Commission Sir J. B. Lawes, Bart., was a member. Under this Com-