

out into the St. Lawrence so as to avoid any danger of sewage contamination.

The place of meeting was converted into a sort of laboratory, and Mr. McGill, of the Department of Inland Revenue, gave the members some simple methods for testing the purity of water.

The special committee on disposal of sewage reported through Dr. Coventry, having held a meeting in April at Toronto. They recommend that the use of privy pits be entirely abandoned everywhere, being highly objectionable on all grounds. The dry-earth system now in use in Brantford was recommended for the favorable consideration of municipalities. The Committee recommended that the separate system of sewerage be adopted wherever

practicable; and that the most desirable method of disposing of sewage is by land irrigation, wherever this is practicable. This method is especially important for cities and towns situated inland, or on such rivers or streams as are or may be used for public water supplies. Some further details were given, and the soils best suited for sewage farms were named, as follows:—Coarse gravels of a calcareous character; coarse sharp sand, more or less calcareous; gravelly loams with gravel subsoils; black loams, with gravelly subsoils, when sewage has been treated with lime as a precipitation. Burnt clays have been used, but solely as filtration beds.

NOTES FROM HEALTH OFFICERS' REPORTS, WHICH TEACH LESSONS.

DR. BROAD reports that diphtheria broke out in two families in Cobocnk, Co. Victoria, one case of which was fatal. The cases were traced to Markham village. The disease broke out in a family there, and a little girl who was just recovering from supposed tonsillitis, but really diphtheria, was sent to friends in Cobocnk to get her out of the way of the disease. She was, unfortunately, sent to school there. The result was that the disease broke out in the family she came to visit, and in another, one of the little girls of which had played with her.

Dr. Sproule (M.P.) reports that, about the time la grippe was dying out a rather severe type of measles set in in the southwest corner of Euphrasia township. They were especially severe on the 11th line, whence they spread. The origin of the epidemic I was able to trace distinctly. It was brought in by a lady who came from Toronto on Christmas day. She was ill at the time, and a physician pronounced the disease measles. It rapidly radiated in all directions until it became prevalent in many townships—Euphrasia, Glenelg, Artemesia, etc. On 25th of February, Dr. Sproule continues, my partner, Dr. Ego, was called to see a boy suffering from

diphtheria. He reported it. The house was placarded and other means taken to prevent its spread. There were two cases in this house, both of which recovered. On making enquiries it was found that one member of the household who had just come home had had a very severe sore throat in Toronto, though a physician there had told him it was not diphtheria. I have no doubt in my own mind that this was the source of the outbreak. After these two cases it seemed to smoulder for about a month, when it reappeared in the family of the next neighbor. There were three or four cases in this house, one proving fatal. The fatal case seemed to add great emphasis to the instructions of the Medical Health Officer, and hence I think the precautions in shape of isolation and disinfection were much more carefully carried out in the second outbreak, with the result that there have been no cases since.

Dr. Howland, of Chaffey twp., writes: In the latter part of spring an outbreak of enteric fever began its ravages in the boarding-house of J. Brennan & Son, lumbermen. Between twenty and thirty employees lodged in this boarding-house. Twenty cases of typhoid fever, mostly of