

The number of visits to each school is left to the committee, but a minimum of once a quarter for rural school sections, once a month for village schools, once a fortnight for towns and once a week for cities is fixed.

The inspection is to be carried on in private, and shall include a complete physical examination of each pupil as soon as possible after his admission to the school, tests for sight and hearing. Examination of heart and lungs must be over clothing, except in special cases, and where permission is granted, or in the presence of parent or guardian. In addition to this a classroom inspection is to be made every half-year.

DISEASE AMONG SOLDIERS.

It appears as if this war is going to set a low mortality rate among the soldiers of the allies from disease and wounds. It has been considered that a death rate of five or six per cent. from wounds at the base hospital was a good record. So far the rate has been much below this. In many instances it has been under one per cent. The high-velocity bullet is self-sterilized and inflicts a wound that has a tendency to heal well.

Then, again, first aid at the front is now much more efficient than in former wars. The application of proper dressings and the rigid avoidance of unnecessary handling and probing of wounds has gone a long way to reduce infection. In the Boer war the British lost by death 22,000 of the army, and of this number 14,000 died of diseases, mostly typhoid fever, and not of wounds.

In the matter of preventing the occurrence of typhoid fever, vaccination has already worked wonders. The proper care of the water supply is also of first importance.

With the coming of winter, the prevention of pneumonia will be a problem. It cannot be prevented, like dysentery, by the conscientious boiling of all the water drunk. Many people carry pneumonia germs with them, which are harmless as long as a soldier is in good condition, but which make their way to the lungs when the resisting powers of the body are lowered by exposure incident upon long marches and hard fighting in cold and rain.
