

side and hand in hand, as they should. General hygienic measures had always been recommended, but, at the same time, they had indicated the means by which they might specially protect themselves and the public from the dangers of infection. He had been pleased to see how very strongly the Association had expressed the view that sanatoria should be inexpensive buildings; and he thought a useful purpose might be served if the Council could become a sort of advisory body for county councils, boards of guardians, and other public bodies, upon the construction, site, and situation of sanatoria. It was regrettable that large sums should be spent on bricks and mortar, when inexpensive buildings would not only fulfil the same object but, in his opinion, fulfil it very much better.

**The Inefficiency of Filters.**—The *Chicago Bulletin of Health*, May 26th, 1904, says: "The common tap filters are not only worthless, but are actually harmful, because they do not stop any of the bacteria—only the organic matter, such as vegetable and animal detritus. Now, when the water is shut off, a few bacteria remaining upon this animal matter find it to be a suitable food, and, as a result, they increase enormously in numbers, so that the next water drawn through the tap filter washes them out; and the longer such a filter is used the more bacteria are found in the water which it filters. Stone or porcelain filters are of value, but only if properly cleaned. During the first few hours such a filter is used, the bacteria, being so small, pass through the pores of the filter. These pores finally become clogged with bacteria. Then, after a number of hours, depending upon the pressure, the water will be free from bacteria, but after a day or so the bacteria grow through the filter, and the water is again contaminated. Therefore, the first water coming from such a filter should be rejected, and the filter itself should be boiled and thoroughly cleaned every two or three days." From these remarks it can readily be seen that even the best filters are worthless, unless properly cared for. The trite old instruction given by sanitarians in times of typhoid epidemic, "to boil the water," is productive of most satisfactory results in the matter of rendering water safe to drink. At the second quarterly meeting of the Provincial Board of Health for this year,