

THE BACILLUS of infantile diarrhoea, it has been announced by M. M. Clado and Damaschino, at a recent meeting of the Societe de Biologie of Paris, France, has been discovered. It is said to be about three times the size of the tubercle bacillus and curved or crescentic in shape. The numbers found are in proportion to the severity of the disease, and they disappear as the stools improve from green to yellow, as recovery takes place.

PHYSICIANS ON SCHOOL BOARDS.—At the meeting of the Vienna Public Medicine Society, Dr. Baginsky, a well-known writer on school hygiene, recently drew attention to the advisability of medical inspection of schools (*Med. Press*). His conclusions were as follows: that, notwithstanding the improved hygienic condition of schools, the infantile organism is still subjected to injurious influences depending on school-attendance; that improvement is for this reason not one to be intrusted to architects and pedagogues, but to be carried on on a physiological basis; that it is therefore fitting that the decision as to improvements, both as regards buildings and systems of teaching, should be submitted to the physician; that every school committee should have a physician among its members; that the activity of every school committee as a whole, and of the medical member in particular, should be continuous; that periodic revisions do not fulfil the desired aim; that absolute independent power of deciding should be permitted to no member of such a committee, either as regards changes in the form of the school or in the studies,—not even to the medical member.

THE FAMILY POISONER.—Modern civilization has, says the *Hydraulic and Sanitary Plumber*, developed a new calling which, though widely pursued, seems as yet to have no specific name. The individual who follows it ought to be much better known than he is, and to help give him the prominence he deserves, we propose for him the title of the family poisoner. This individual never confines his business entirely to the specialty indicated, but always combines it with some other business or trade; sometimes with plumbing, with the furnishing of "interior decorations,"

with the selling of "family groceries," with the keeping of a "family liquor store," or with the manufacture of candy and other like-things. A good deal of money is made by it or saved, which in general amounts to pretty much the same thing. But from its peculiar nature it cannot very well be carried on alone; the most vivid imagination could hardly conceive of its profitable establishment as a separate industry. Altogether the outlook for the business of family poisoning is not very good.

THE SAVANNAH *Times* reports that a piece of lead waste pipe which had been knawed through by rats has been found in that city. A leak occurred, and a search resulted in the discovery of a hole in the pipe large enough to put one's thumb through. The pipe showed the marks of the rats' teeth. The rats had probably been attracted by grease.

IT IS SAID that a company has been organized to form an artificial lake at Northfield, Staten Island, N. Y., for the purpose of supplying water to towns in New Jersey, through iron aqueducts to be laid across the narrow portion of Staten Island Sound.

THE SECOND CREMATORIUM has recently been completed in the United States, and dedicated. It is at Lancaster, in the vicinity of the largest cemetery of Philadelphia. The first cremation has taken place—the cost being \$35.

THE Italian Government propose to spend twenty millions of dollars in improving the sanitary condition of Naples. After the horse is stolen, etc.

IT IS PROBABLE that a state board of health will be established in Pennsylvania at this session of the legislature.

A MUSEUM OF HYGIENE, similar to the Parkes Museum in London, is shortly to be opened at Turin.

WASHINGTON correspondents think there is little hope for any health legislation this session.

THE Illinois state board of health is conducting a sanitary survey of the state.