

Inspector Walter H. Elliott, in his annual presidential address to the Toronto Teachers' Association in Convocation Hall recently, urged the necessity for revision of the educational system to meet its rapidly advancing needs and requirements. He said that an educational system to be vital and useful must have its roots in the life and needs of the people, must be shaped in accordance with the demands of the present and the ideals of the future. To that end he strongly advocated the organization of a well-equipped department of medical inspection as an integral part of Toronto's system of education, open-air schools, vocational and industrial training, special provision for the mentally defec-

tive and a segregation of the backward.

An innovation in connection with the admission of students into McGill University goes into effect this week. Hereafter all students before being allowed to enter the university must pass a physical examination. The McGill authorities, in announcing this new rule, state that it has been introduced in order to promote the physical welfare of the student body. Where weaknesses are discovered advice as to how to correct them will be given by the medical director of the university.

Advance Notices, Alphabetical.

Canadian Public Health Association—1913 Congress, Regina. Particulars later.

INTERNATIONAL

Congress of the Great Lakes—International Pure Water Association and the National Association for the Prevention of Pollution of Rivers and Harbors.

Pure water for drinking and domestic purposes for the cities of both the United States and Canada was discussed last month at the meetings of the Great Lakes International Pure Water Association and the National Association for the Prevention of Pollution of Rivers and Harbors.

Dr. Chas. J. C. O. Hastings, Medical Officer of Health of Toronto, spoke in opposition to the practice of making the Great Lakes the depository of municipal sewage. He favored some plan of concerted action between Canada and the United States, holding such action indispensable to the prevention of typhoid and a reduction in the mortality rates.

"It is surprising to note," Dr. Hastings said, "that notwithstanding the progress made in recent years in other problems pertaining to public health, the primitive method of discharging sewage into a common water supply still continues. In the light of present knowledge it is difficult to conceive of a more unpardonable offence against public health being tolerated by civilized men. Of the various methods of disposal of sewage that by dilution is the most universally adopted. By it millions

of gallons of filth are dumped into a large body of water, such as the Great Lakes. The sewage being dumped into the lake the municipality is rid of it, and trust is placed in Providence for the rest."

No sewage should be permitted to enter the lakes within ten miles of a water supply intake, Dr. Hastings maintained, and far better still would be the universal adoption of sewage disposal systems other than that of dilution.

Those attending these conventions, however, found themselves divided on the question of sewage disposal. Dr. Allen J. McLaughlin, of the United States Government Health Service, discussed sewage-pollution of the Great Lakes. He declared for a guarded and regulated discharge of refuse into those bodies. His stand was opposed by Canadians, who favor a general law in both countries that would forbid the discharge of sewage into the lakes.

As between the purification of the water supply of a city and the purification of the sewage discharge into the source of that supply, Dr. McLaughlin sanctioned water purification, holding that it is both cheaper and more effective.

Officers of the Pure Water Association were chosen as follows: Dr. Chas. J. C. O. Hastings, Toronto, President; Dr. Guy Kiefer, Detroit, Vice-President; Dr. Paul Hanson, Chicago; Secretary-Treasurer. Chairman of the Executive Committee, Dr.