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MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.*

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There are four periods in the history of any reform. First of all, everyone is indifferent, and the reformer can scarcely get a hearing. This is the period of apathy. Secondly, people are roused against the reform and make efforts to suppress the reformer. This is the destructive period. Thirdly, the reformer makes some converts and they help him. This is the period of agitation and education. Finally, the reform is accepted, and becomes part of the recognized order of things. This is the constructive period, or period of organization. And we see, at home and abroad, this reform, the Medical Inspection of Schools, passing through all these periods. Germany and Japan have been for some time in the fourth period. Great Britain as a whole entered on it with the Education Act of 1907. On this side of the sea we have all four periods represented both in the United States and in Canada. The most progressive places, such as Hamilton, Montreal, New York, and Boston are in the fourth period, and the rest of us are in one or other of the earlier periods.

In Hamilton, Dr. Roberts, the City Medical Health Officer, is Medical Inspector of Schools, and there is also a school nurse who entered on her duties Jan. 1, 1908, Miss Deyman. In Montreal in December, 1907, the City Council appropriated \$1,500.00 to pay the salary of the School Nurses, who also began work on January 1st, 1908, and \$11,000.00 to pay the salaries of 50 School Doctors, two of whom are women. Vancouver, Halifax, Ottawa, Brantford, and other places are moving in the same direction.

*Read at meeting of Ontario Medical Association.