

*By Mr. Murphy:*

Q. What class of officials are you referring to?—A. Medical officers in connection with Boards of Health. We have such a Board in our municipality, and my experience of such men is that they know practically nothing of the scientific part of the question that we are dealing with, and that is why I suggest that properly trained men, in sanitation, should be secured. That is no reflection on the medical men at all. The whole sanitary science has grown extremely rapidly and the older men, both engineers and doctors, have hardly kept pace with it. They have been busy with other things. Our railway engineers do not need to trouble their minds at all about it. They have other questions that keep them exceedingly busy and the ordinary practitioner in the country understands that bad water hurts people, but what way to get rid of that bad water he is not prepared to say; but surely men ought to be trained in this science, which has grown so rapidly. Our pollution is increasing very fast and we understand so much better now what is needed to make wholesome water and wholesome conditions of health generally. Some kind of scientific training is urgently needed.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You think it would be in the interest of the country that some step should be taken to create properly trained sanitary engineers?—A. I do. I can conceive hardly any other way in which money could be better spent than to take steps for improving our whole sanitary condition, and of course, trained men would be the first step.

Q. Do you consider that to secure such men it would be necessary for the Government to take action in the way of creating Chairs in Universities?—A. I think so. You would have to start with young students, and it would be quite a while before they would grow into experienced engineers. A young man out of college may have had experience in his vacations or at hospital work, or if he is an engineer, on survey work or something of that kind, but he is still a young man and it would take some time before he would become qualified as a sanitary engineer. It would be necessary, in creating such a Board as I have mentioned, not to wait until these students had grown up, but select the very best men available at present.

Q. Would this not be possible: to draw from the staff of civil engineers and give those men a course?—A. Not exactly a course. They should have some education. Suppose you were to create a whole Board analogous to the Railway Commission. After the men were selected the first step in their training would be to send them out to see what is being done at present in the different places of the world in this line.

*By Mr. Murphy:*

Q. Should they not have that training before they get their appointment?—A. Of course they should have. I am referring to the present condition. I say that we ought not to wait until a body of sanitary engineers has grown up or been trained.

Q. We ought to make a beginning in the way you suggest?—A. Yes, with the very best material we can get. If a man were starting a large machine shop or factory, he would send his experts to examine the best things in existence in that line at present and then begin at that point with his own plant, and so it should be in this case. A Board should be given powers and permission to go and see what is being done elsewhere and what has been successful.

Mr. NORTHROP.—That is exactly what Japan did. They sent men over all the world to study the best firms.

*By Mr. Northrup:*

Q. Do you think, if we could materially improve the domestic water supply, we would materially affect the death rate?—A. Of course, but what is the best way to do that. How are we to get the water pure at the water tap? Are we to begin at the