

With a shore-line approximating twelve miles it is apparent that, apart from the pollution of Toronto and Ashbridge's Bay, the pollution of the lake water must gradually increase; but when to the increasing pollution of the two bays the latter is added, the extent and quality of the pollution will gradually approach that of Chicago, Cleveland and Duluth, all of which have for years had typhoid chronically present, and have had it lessened only in the degree that they have been able to prevent pollution of the lake water used as a public supply. Toronto similarly suffered, and it has only been since the pipe was made tight through the bay and carried into deep water beyond the island that relative immunity has been secured, owing to the island sand-bar lying between the bay and the intake. Experiments made in 1891 have shown that lake currents, caused by different winds, may at any time carry polluted water, either via the west or east gaps, along the south of the island to the intake.

With these facts in evidence it is plain that either (a) protection of the public water supply against pollution, (b) purification of the water after pollution, or (c) the doing of both, is essential to the safety of the citizens. You ask me my views on the situation, and, speaking generally, I would say that I am of the opinion:

1st. That with a main trunk sewer along the whole waterfront, and any necessary subsidiary ones, the purity of the city water supply can be assured if the sewage be disposed of by septic tanks and subsequent pumping to land areas for filtration, either to the sandbars south and east of Ashbridge's Bay and other made land there, or to the sandy plains to the east of the city, where sewage farms, as in Germany, France and England, can be made to pay the cost of pumping.

2nd. That sand filters on Scarborough Heights of sufficient extent would, if scientifically managed, probably give a pure water supply, even though the water pumped up were liable to pollution from the bay waters. The water might, however, be better taken from the present location of the intake pipe, where it is least liable to pollution.

3rd. As this second scheme still leaves the Don, Toronto Bay and Ashbridge's Bay extremely filthy, while the bay is still further injured commercially by filling up with sewage deposits, it seems evident that trunk sewers and the treatment of sewage are a necessity under any circumstances, since if a trunk sewer were constructed and the sewage pumped into the lake to prevent the filling up of the bay, the relief of the bay