

tain the state of health of any person therein. They should carefully examine and understand any such warrant received by them, to see that its terms comply with the wording of the Act, and should they find it necessary to issue any certificate they should be very careful to express it as nearly as possible according to the requirements of the Act, in order to relieve themselves of liability in case action should be taken.

Any medical practitioner may certify to any Local Board that certain premises or things therein require cleansing or disinfection in order to check the spread of infectious disease. Were this power applied more generally by physicians when they meet with filthy premises the community would be much benefited thereby.

Medical Health Officers are appointed by the Council of the municipality in which they are to exercise their function, or may be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in case the Council refuses or neglects to appoint after a request has been made by the Provincial Board of Health. He must be a legally qualified medical practitioner. He is appointed at the pleasure of the Council, except when his appointment is made by the Lieutenant-Governor, when his term expires on the first day of February next succeeding. It has been understood in many quarters that the M. H. O. may be dismissed by a mere majority of the Council, or by the simple means of substituting another name in the by-law when the annual appointment of officers are made. Section 34, however, provides that a two-thirds majority of the Council is required to dismiss any M. H. O. for neglect of duty, and it would seem to be an anomaly that any smaller majority will suffice to secure the same object by some other means. It would be interesting were some judicial opinion available on that point.

The compensation of the M. H. O. depends on the amount named as annual salary in the by-law making the appointment. It must be understood that the amount named covers all the duties which the M. H. O. may be called upon to perform under the Act. In 1897 or 1898 Dr. Bryce investigated the amounts received by M. H. O.'s throughout the Province. He received over 150 replies, and the average amount of compensation received by way of salary or by means of fees was under \$15.00 each. Either the majority of M. H. O.'s had little or nothing to do at that time or their compensation was grossly inadequate. Where the by-law contains no stated amount as salary, the M. H. O. is entitled to receive from the municipality such reasonable fees for any service rendered as he would receive from any private individual for similar services. He cannot be required to collect from the persons concerned in his