

easier) to check the ravages of typhoid in rural districts than it is in crowded centres of population. It is the same with other diseases.

During the winter and spring of 1914-5 we had an outbreak of smallpox in both North and South Dorchester. Some sixty cases all told, without any deaths. Some were well-marked cases. The disease got well under way before the trouble was reported to our board. Even then the doctor in attendance refused to say it was smallpox. I understand he behaved in the same way in other municipalities where he happened to be treating people with the same trouble. However, all the other medical men that afterwards say my quarantined subjects agreed with my diagnosis. By strict quarantine we confined the disease to the homes originally infected. On one of my visits I met one of the rate-payers on the road and inquired about his son, who had been exposed but had not contracted the disease. He said to me that he did not believe there was a case of smallpox in the township. "Why, look," said he, "there has not been a death." Evidently this man did not consider it a success unless several people died. I intimated to him that if he was so cocksure of his diagnosis without even seeing one of the patients that I might get him a good salaried job with the Provincial authorities, as it was too bad having so useful a person deprived from showing his capabilities. He declined my offer.

When the disease was stamped out, the corporation of the municipality succeeded in recovering from several heads of families the amount expended in caring for these afflicted, as per Health Act 58, Sec. 1, and regulation 3. Some refused to pay their share of expense incurred, and North Dorchester took action to recover by course of law. The case was as follows: A boy aged about ten had smallpox. There were only the boy and his father at home when the disease developed. Both were placed under quarantine. The father refused to settle. The case was tried before Judge McBeth, of London. The municipality was non-suited, the judge holding that sub-section 2 of section 58 did not apply to the father and that there was no use amending the claim against the boy, as he was too young to be sued. The result was that the municipality footed the bill.

Section 58 of Health Act, sub-section 1, reads: "If any person coming from abroad or residing in any municipality within Ontario is infected, or has recently been infected with, or exposed to, any communicable disease to which this section is by the regulations made applicable, the Medical Officer of Health or local board shall make effective provision for the public safety by removing such person to a separate house or by otherwise isolating him, and by providing medical attendance, medicine, nurses and other assistance and necessaries for him.