

may have more sewage thrown into them than they can digest. It may be necessary for the large cities to install plants for the sterilization of their sewage. One thing is certain—*Salus populi suprema lex est.*

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### THE TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

This institution marked a new phase in its progress when, a few weeks ago, it opened for the service of the public its splendid building for private patients. This building is a credit to all who have had any share in its erection—donors, trustees and architect.

In Britain and other European countries there is very little use made of pay wards in connection with the large hospitals. The plan of wards at various prices to suit the conditions of all classes is an innovation of this continent. In Britain the sick person goes to a public hospital on the charity basis, or to a private hospital, or stays at home. He cannot go to the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh, or to Guy's Hospital in London, and engage a private ward and be attended by the doctor or surgeon of his own choice.

In the new General Hospital there is a range of prices from \$1 a day in the public ward, upwards to the dearest private ward. This is as it should be. Most of the Canadian hospitals are on this plan. It took many years to evolve this system in its present state of perfection; but we have it now, and the public should be thankful. Our hospitals should be ranked among our greatest industries—for they restore mankind to usefulness where such is possible. They are among our greatest national assets in times of peace, and in times of war would render inestimable services. For many years to come the private ward building will be a boon to humanity.

Towards the funds required for the new General Hospital the city has given \$610,000; the trustees have raised from donors \$1,287,000; the Ontario Government and the University of Toronto gave \$600,000, and various corporations paid in \$135,000.

Toronto is now well supplied with hospital accommodation. St. Michael's has added largely to its room in a modern and scientific style; and the Western, with beds for 300 patients, is new, fireproof and up-to-date in every way.

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### RADIUM.

The day has gone past for any one to set aside the claims of radium with a wave of his hand. Scientific and conscientious workers in