

In Toronto during the last few weeks, fourteen cases with four deaths have occurred in connection with the hospitals; *and where is the record to show* how many have been treated in private practice? Also, but of this I cannot warrant the correct figures, there are 25 stated cases in many of the villages and towns near the city.

During the past year the Board of Health have made splendid efforts to stamp out rabies, a disease from which very few people have fallen victims; and rabies is in many ways a sister disease to acute poliomyelitis, and yet little attention has been paid to the latter with its hosts of sufferers.

Truly, indeed, the disease is notifiable and the law calls for isolation, but visit the hospitals of the city and see the "isolation" and the "disinfection" and the "notification," and you will realize that we are awaiting quietly an epidemic, whether it occurs this year or on the next visitation of the infection. Here is the law:

EPIDEMIC CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS AND EPIDEMIC ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

*Regulation 8.*—Every case of epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis and epidemic anterior poliomyelitis shall forthwith be reported to the Secretary of the local Board of Health. The patient shall be isolated. The discharges from the nose, throat and mouth of the patient must be received on cloths and burned at once. After death or recovery of the patient all personal clothing and bedding, together with the contents of the room and the room itself, must be thoroughly disinfected under the personal supervision of the Medical Health Officer. In case of death a public funeral or viewing of the remains of the deceased must be forbidden. Every doubtful case of cerebro-spinal meningitis must be classed as of epidemic type and cared for accordingly until proved to be otherwise.

While Flexner is working on the probable actual germ in his laboratories, it is definitely the duty of the Provincial Department to appoint men who shall endeavour to discover in these numerous isolated cases a common means of infection, and thoroughly sift for each individual case every detail that may help to complete the