

The profession will know that while all impurities are not removed by septic tank treatment, the effluent contains very little that could be objected to when pouring into so large a body of fresh water as the lake, and which would become purified within a very reasonable area of the discharge pipe.

Further treatment of the effluent might be considered and bacteria or contact beds established to still further reduce the impurities that might be poured into the lake.

From an engineering standpoint this system is very easily carried out. I might touch for a moment on the financial side of the question, although to medical men this must always be secondary. We should demand a cost that would not be prohibitive. With the plan which I have outlined the cost will be cheaper than the plan which has been most favored in the past, and which was approved of by the late Provincial Board of Health, whereby the trunk sewers were to be constructed to a point in Ashbridge's Bay, in the east of the city, the sewage there treated by septic tank, and the effluent pumped against a head of 186 feet up into a section of six hundred acres north of the Danforth Road and east of Greenwoods Avenue, and there treated by land filtration. This plan did not take into consideration the filtering of the water at all. The cost of this was estimated in 1901 to be \$2,385,000. In the plan I have suggested there would be a saving of something like \$790,000 in plant and land which would not be necessary, as well as a saving in the annual cost of maintenance of about \$50,000, which capitalized would represent \$1,250,000, or the total saving would represent \$2,040,000. But against this we must place the cost of the filtration plant at the island, which is estimated to be \$1,750,000, which would leave approximately a saving by the plan I have suggested of an amount equivalent to \$290,000, so that from a financial standpoint this plan seems to be much preferable.

#### DR. P. H. BRYCE.

I have studied the several schemes which have, from time to time, been proposed to improve the sanitary condition of Toronto's harbor and water supply, and have formed opinions as to what ought to be done in the matter. As anything I might hitherto have said would necessarily have appeared official, I have been slow to do more than point out what ought not to be done, leaving for the municipal authorities the work of initiating new methods. Replying, however, to your request I shall broadly indicate what I deem the situation demands.