

not be princely, but it should be commensurate with his duties and calls upon his time, awarded by parliamentary enactment if practicable, and not left to the judgment of municipal councillors—in country districts merely nominal, in cities and towns in proportion to population.

There remains but one more thought—the necessity of proper sanitary supervision of our schools. It appears to me that in no other department of the public service is there such wanton carelessness and neglect. A perfect school building, properly heated, lighted, ventilated and drained, carefully kept grounds and well appointed outbuildings, with the comforts of an ordinary home, is indeed a *rara avis*. In country districts, villages and smaller towns, they are objectionable in every particular. I do not say that in more progressive places, the larger and more prosperous towns and cities for example, new schools are not being erected on improved hygienic and sanitary principles—that a certain degree of pride is not evidenced in their construction and the introduction of modern comforts and conveniences. There are such exceptions, still I maintain they are somewhat rare; and rarer still, even such that do not very soon develop evidences of official carelessness; dust, cobwebs and neglect sooner or later indelibly leave their mark, clearly discernable, internally and externally. This is not as it should be. There are confined within these walls some 500,000, living, growing, active mischievous protests to the contrary—arguments that appeal to our every senses, that follow us to our fire-sides and in smiles, in tears, in words, demand thoughtful consideration. The Public Health Act leaves it to the judgment of trustee Boards whether the Medical Health Officer shall act as medical inspector of schools or not. As a rule the advisability of the appointment is not even considered, and very seldom is the authority extended. While I hold that in every district a Medical Health Officer should act as Sanitary Inspector of schools, I think that even more than the law allows is required. There should be a Provincial Sanitary Inspector, who would enquire into existing grievances that interfere with the robust, mental and physical growth of our scholars; visit all sections and schools in which there may be neglect or complaint; see that district inspectors, and trustee Boards are fully alive to hygienic and sanitary requirements and that they are practically enforced. When we consider the large proportion of sickness and death that could be prevented by strict observance of sanitary laws, and that the developing period is the most susceptible to disease, that of the twenty-four