

before the herds became widely inoculated with the disease.

Summing up, then, briefly the advantages to be gained by such an officer, they are:

1. The efficient and progressive administration of public health work in the counties. The difference between the present method and such a method will be as marked as the present method of county inspection of schools as compared with that in the days when the township council appointed some local clergyman who once a year put his head within the door to see that school was "being kept," and then passed on.

2. A direct saving of lives through a limitation of the number of outbreaks of disease, and a notable saving of time and money to ratepayers, and therefore to the country.

3. No increase in the direct outlays, if compared so far as possible with existing expenditures.

4. The possibility of a medical officer by assisting local practitioners in several essential branches of their work, developing that active support and sympathy for public health work so necessary for its success in the place of what has hitherto existed in many instances, an active hostility to health measures, because it has been possible for one medical practitioner, by getting the appointment of a medical health officer at a mere nominal authority, to exercise what has not always been acceptable, an official oversight of the cases of a rival practitioner. In many instances this has resulted in the abolition of the office of medical health officer, even in some of the larger towns.

5. The existence of local county

officers so easily in touch with the Provincial Board of Health, that an accurate estimate of the health conditions of the Province at any time notice will be possible, while detailed scientific investigations would be carried on by this Board with the assistance of such officers in a manner at present largely impossible. We should gradually be able to collate information with regard to local geology, underground water, rainfalls, relative incidence of such diseases as malaria, etc., until the Board will, by and by, be able to work the details into a Public Health Map of the Province, which will form the basis of a scientific and historical work of inestimable value for the future.

6. The encouragement of a high standard of scientific work in our universities by offering encouragement to scientific students to follow out in medicine special lines of investigations, such as water analysis, food analysis, investigation of animal diseases, and other lines of biological study. The public press and the practising physician are to-day fully convinced that the country has an abundance, even a surplus, of doctors, of the average class, but no one has yet stated that there is a surplus of men of such accurate scientific attainments as to be able to follow out chemical and scientific investigations with any great success.

Like specialists in education, agriculture, mining, etc., we have in public health a large amount of work like beside, yet outside the work of the practising physician, which can only be done by such trained men as I have referred to, and in conclusion I would suggest that some permissive