

In the houses where Diphtheria occurred people were using what appeared to be good water.

Drs. McMurchy and Howey of the C. P. R., are also at North Bay.

There are some good townships north of North Bay, and the government have opened a new road from North Bay to Lake Temiscamingue, which will be rapidly followed by settlement and lumbering operations, and, if better regulations are not observed, an outbreak of Diphtheria or some other contagious disease in a year or two.

East of Lake Nipissing are the organized townships of Ferris and Ronfield, and the country is partially settled all along between the Lake and the Ottawa River.

In all this territory there have been a very large number of cases of Diphtheria, but of a mild type and few deaths.

There is a licensed doctor at Mattawa. West of North Bay, there are scattered settlements along the line of railroad for seventy or eighty miles. The township of Springfield, including the village of Sturgeon Falls, is organized, but there is no doctor between North Bay and Sudbury, where there is extensive copper mining, and the mining company have a doctor north-west of Sudbury. For several hundred miles along the main line, there is no settlement nor lumbering and never will be. Chapleau, a village of about 500, about 250 miles from North Bay and composed entirely of railroad men and traders who supply them, has had an outbreaks of the most malignant type of diphtheria. So far, 18 cases with 10 deaths. The C. P. R. Co. have a hospital, and Dr. Arthur is the C. P. R. surgeon in charge. Dr. Struthers who is stationed at Algoma Mills was also at Chapleau assisting Dr. Arthur at the time of my visit.

The C. P. R. are very liberal and although they had gone to several thousand dollars expense for draining previously, when the diphtheria broke out, at the suggestion of the doctor, they put in a new drain which cost \$2,200.

The Company also have very good water pumped

up from the lake, and offer to supply all the people from their tank free of charge. They can compel their own employees to use proper water and clean up their privies and garbage; but the other people, who have bought lots and built their own houses do just as they please, and the consequence is a most deplorable condition of sanitary affairs. The land is low and swampy, water can be obtained by digging a few feet. The soil being of coarse sand and gravel is very porous and allows the soakage from the privies, stables, and garbage heaps to get into the wells.

At Schreiber, 150 miles north-west of Chapleau, a few cases occurred with conditions very similar to Chapleau.

The thing most urgently needed in all the unorganized districts is some person, whether medical man or not, who will have sufficient authority to compel people to clean up their privies and garbage heaps and use the best water available.

For the Parry Sound district the doctors at Parry Sound, Magnetawan, Burk's Falls, Sundridge, Pawassan, and French River might be appointed Medical Health Officers for the respective townships in which they live, and the unorganized townships adjoining them, and then, if a couple of other doctors were given some encouragement to settle in the district, for instance one at Commanda or a little further west, and another, say at Byng Inlet, between French River and Parry Sound, the District of Parry Sound would be pretty well supplied. The Powassan District might include the neighbouring township of Nipissing; North Bay, Mattawa, and Sturgeon Falls, might also be centres for districts. While, farther west along the main line of the C. P. R., where there are no settlements, might be conveniently and cheaply handled by the C. P. R. doctors. Their having free passes over the railroad would enable them to do the work of inspection at much less cost.

Your obedient servant.

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Medical Inspector.

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The following is an abstract of a paper on "Intubation of the Larynx in Diphtheretic Laryngitis," read before the Toronto Medical Society on Feb. 5th, by Dr. Palmer:—

Dr. Palmer reported nineteen cases, of which five recovered. They were all cases of true diphtheria, and operation was delayed in every case till the dyspnoea was extreme and the patient cyanotic and death apparently inevitable.