

have had no increase. It is an amazing thing that this has been allowed to go on so long. During my time as a practitioner in Montreal we have had two epidemics of typhoid fever traceable to milk supplied by two dairies. They were promptly stopped from selling any more milk till the Health Department was satisfied that the cause had been removed.

F. G. FINLEY, M.D. The great difficulty that the Contagious Diseases Department have to contend with is that physicians as a class do not report their cases sufficiently often. I think if the authorities would follow the example of Glasgow and pay a small fee for each case reported it might be of service in bringing them to time. I would like to ask Dr. Laberge what steps are taken in tracing typhoid to milk. It seems to me that it is the duty of the health officers to follow up the milk supply and see if the disease follows the route of any special milkman. I was very much struck recently in reading the report of the District of Columbia health authorities. They had a number of cases of typhoid there and began to trace the milk supply, and found the disease limited to the route of two milkmen. After investigation they found that it originated in one woman who handled the milk on a certain farm, she had had typhoid fever 18 years previously and bacilli were found in her stools.

DR. HART. There is one little point to which I would beg to draw Dr. Laberge's attention, and that is with regard to the reporting of cases to the Health Department by telephone. It has occurred to me several times, when I have had occasion to call up the Contagious Disease Office, to be told that the line is engaged. I think it would simplify matters a great deal for medical men, especially the busy ones, if the department were to put in two or three instruments, so that reports would have some one to receive them at once. It may occur, and probably does, that if on the first call, a doctor finds the line busy, and on a second call is again told that the line is busy, the report is not made at all, or postponed for a day or two, especially may this be so if the cases to be reported are measles, whooping cough, &c., &c.

W. GRANT STEWART, M.D. I would like to ask Dr. Laberge whether they do here as in Edinburgh; they have a laboratory which examines all the specimens of the infirmary and city and all the surrounding country, and all the doctors from the country around send in specimens of sputum, swabs from throat cases, specimens of fæces, gastric contents, etc., for examination and report. I would like to ask Dr. Laberge whether they do that sort of thing in the city laboratory or whether such a thing would be feasible. Another point is the matter of stations all over the city where one could get culture tubes, etc. The late Dr.