

capable of producing serious disease and the other not, the first may be found to contain less of suspicious substances than the second." We then too pointed out the clearest evidence of the above contention in the case of the towns of Lowell and Lawrence on the Merrimac river. Frankland, at the Congress of Hygiene in London, asserted that chemical evidence of the purification of water is insufficient, that there must be a bacteriological examination as well. The *history* of the water, too, **MUST** be taken into consideration in estimating the safety of the water. If it is possible for a trace of sewage with disease germs to reach the supply, it is not safe : as in the case of Toronto, for example.

TORONTO'S WATER SUPPLY, as we have long contended, can never be good if taken from the lake while the city sewage is emptied into the same body of water, virtually, and so near the supply intake. We do not believe a supply from lake Simcoe would be satisfactory. The danger of contamination of it would be great, greater than the danger to the present supply if the city sewage were kept out of the lake or even carried far away to the east of the Don. It appears that Toronto might obtain a safe and good water supply by a complete change in the manner of sewage disposal and by building a tunnel, not simply a pipe in the water, out under the lake a mile or more say from the present intake. It would be necessary to build up there a structure by means of which the water could be taken from not far below the surface of the lake, many feet from the bottom of it. There might require to be provision too there for straining, rather than filtering, the water from certain unpleasant, though not dangerous substances. This plan might be very costly but may be worthy of consideration.

THE TRUNK SEWER for intercepting and carrying away the sewage of Toronto, turning it from the once beautiful bay, is one of the greatest needs, hardly second to that of the removal and suppression of the privy nuisance. The Empire (Nov. 20) says : " The trunk sewer problem is being pushed by the Provincial Board of Health, which body reports that ' a scheme will soon be laid before the City Council.' Both the schemes. We have schemes enough now to build twenty sewers. The best engineers in the country have gone over the ground and reported on it. The plans are all ready in the engineer's office. What is wanted is the money and a start. Will the ratepayers vote a money by-law for the work ? " We believe they would if those disposed to support the scheme would institute a sort of election campaign ; hold a series of public meetings, addressed by competent men interested only in the general welfare of the people ; and so arouse and instruct the whole population, somewhat as they do when they bring out and wish to make known and popular a man whom they desire to elect to parliament. In this way a money vote might oftener be obtained in municipalities for sanitary purposes. The people do not vote the money, or they vote against it, because they do not thoroughly understand the whole question.

PROMPT DISINFECTION.—The Paris (France) Municipality has provided three disinfecting ovens where the public can have bed-clothes, wearing apparel, etc., disinfected free of charge on applying at any *matric*, cemetery, or municipal ambulance station. Medical practitioners are supplied with packets of postcards, the despatch of one of which will cause steps to be at once taken for carrying out any required disinfection. A special conveyance hermetically closed and under the care of attendants in distinctive uniform is sent to the house indicated. After disinfection the things are brought back in a different vehicle.

A NEW FEATURE IN MILK SUPPLY.—The N. Y. Medical Times says that Dr. Brush, of New Jersey, who has for many years paid much attention to cattle breeding and has written a good deal on bovine tuberculosis, has added to his *kumys* trade a distinct department for providing milk for infant feeding, from spayed cows, stall fed and guarded in every way from improper food or contaminated water. The milk of spayed cows is of course not affected by the cow coming into "heat."