

reddish tint, and with a six-inch sanitary base or coping to protect the walls. The ceilings are 12 feet in height, irrespective of the skylight wells, and are, like the walls, finished in hard white plaster. Each room is supplied with suitable porcelain wash-basins, sterilizers where needed, and other requisite furniture. With the exception of the front doors, which are of handsome quartered oak, the millwork of doors, closets, waiting benches, etc., is of chestnut of extra quality. The benches are of comfortable design and have been specially made not only for the waiting-room, but for several of the dispensary rooms, where they are built in and fitted to the various spaces. All in all, the plans and construction of the building leave little to be desired and make it a model as a commodious, modern and convenient dispensary. Credit for their care and co-operation in attending to the many details in securing this successful result should be given to the architect, Mr. Ralph E. White, and to Jacob Myers & Sons, builder. (Note.)

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### THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

So much has been said and written lately about the British National Insurance Bill and the ill effect it will have upon medical practice and professional incomes that we reproduce a digest of the bill taken from the *London Daily Telegraph*. The opinion in England that it will be the death-blow of the average general practitioner may or may not be well founded, but it is evident on perusal that the profession will be in the hands of Friendly Societies and local Health Committees, and that the average medical man will be nothing but a contract doctor at poor remuneration. No wonder a medical union has been formed and that at least two-thirds of the doctors in England have determined to have nothing to do with the working of the Act. It is noticeable that the *Telegraph*, which is the Government organ, says nothing about the rates of pay of the doctors under the Act. Apparently it is of secondary importance.

#### G. STERLING RYERSON.

Under ordinary circumstances, the Act will come into operation on July 15, 1912. But should necessity arise, his Majesty in Council may postpone the unemployment scheme to not later than Oct. 12, 1912, and the health scheme not later than Jan. 1, 1913.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE—PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE SCHEME.

All persons over 16 years of age who are employed within the meaning of this part of the Act shall, and any persons not so employed may,

NOTE.—This is given in detail as showing what a dispensary should be.—Ed. Canada Lancet.