

home environments and cleanliness, and the number of indigent families in their districts.

It should be noted that the progress and success of the work in Toronto owes much to the efforts of Mr. John Ross Robertson of the "Evening Telegram," to the Local Council of Women, and to the intelligent and sympathetic support of certain members of the School Board.

In Winnipeg, two medical inspectors, on part time, four nurses, and two clerks who do all the writing of notices and records, are employed. The inspectors receive \$1000 a year each. This city has also "A Little Nurses League," managed by a nurse who is on the permanent staff of teachers, and who holds classes during the summer, to instruct upper grade girls how to feed and care for children.

The Calgary Board of Education employs two doctors and a nurse. The doctors spend one-half of each school day in the schools. Their salaries are respectively \$125 and \$100 a month, and the nurse receives \$75 a month.

Regina, with a population of 45,000, has two nurses, on whole time, one drawing \$1300, the other \$1000, a year. "Little Mother's" Classes are held and in one school, a dental clinic.

In Saskatoon, there is a medical inspector, and two graduate nurses give their whole time to the schools, receiving salaries of \$1200 each. In six weeks these nurses visited 168 schools and fifty-eight homes.

The discussion on Medical Inspection of Schools at the meeting of the Canadian Public Health Association in Regina last year aroused interest in the West, and directly after this convention, Prince Albert, Sask., engaged a school nurse at a salary of \$1000.

Edmonton began this work in 1910, and now has a medical inspector on full time, with a salary of \$3500, and two nurses.

The East, so far, lags behind in this movement. But the Halifax School Board, as early as 1909, appointed two medical inspectors, who are now paid \$300 a year each, for part time service. A school nurse is being appointed, at a salary of \$600, and will begin her work in May.

In Truro, medical inspection of schools is carried on under the direction of the town's health officer.

Amherst owes her system to the public spirit of the medical men of the town, who, to demonstrate the need of and the benefits resulting from inspec-

tion of the schools, have given their services gratis since 1911. The school nurse who assists them, gives her whole time to this duty, and her salary is paid by a lady interested in the work.

Medical inspection aims at the prevention of disease and the correction of defects and deformity in the child, in order to develop strong and healthy men and women. While the end in view is the same, the methods in different cities vary with the needs of the communities, and the resources at the disposal of the workers. In most places, the inspector, either directly or through the school nurse, calls the attention of parents or guardians to any condition requiring medical attention. Great care is taken to avoid any embarrassment or offence to either child or parent. The school nurse gives attention to cases of uncleanness, skin eruptions, and insufficient clothing. The teaching of personal hygiene; tooth brush drills; nose-blowing drills; testing the eyes and fitting with glasses; securing treatment for neglected teeth, for diseased tonsils, and for adenoids, are branches of the valuable service of the school nurse, not only in the school, but in her visits to the homes. She has the cordial co-operation of both teachers and parents, and is a much-needed link between home and school.

The standard of health and cleanliness is being steadily raised. Already the dirty, unsanitary schoolroom is becoming a thing of the past. We are spending money freely on the ventilating, heating, and cleaning of our school buildings. To ensure that they shall be occupied by clean and healthy children, medical inspection seems to be the next necessity.

I have found by experiment that over feeding with starchy foods produces animals that are weak and irritable. And I see women, ignorant of the principles of diet, feeding their children with starchy foods, and producing the same results. We think it necessary to teach our men how to feed animals, but we expect our women to feed and care for babies by instinct.— J. W. ROBERTSON.

Home Rule for Ireland is the most important question to come before the British Parliament at its present session. The threats of a rebellion in Ulster if the Home Rule bill becomes law are less violent than they have been, yet it is not improbable that there will be some disturbances.

It is not what a thing costs that makes it great; the Good Samaritan spent twopence in doing the most famous deed of charity in all history.