

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

The School Medical Officer should not treat any children, except that minor ailments may well be dealt with by the School Nurse, under the Inspector's direction.

A sub-committee appointed recently by the Education Committee of the London County Council reports that as a result of Medical Inspection many preventable but unremedied evils have been discovered.

It is known that the health of many children is impaired, temporarily and permanently, for want of medical treatment, and it is perhaps necessary that some reference should be made here to what must follow after Medical Inspection. The Medical Inspector finds children suffering from errors of refraction, from adenoids, from ulcers, from pediculosis and many other ailments. What is to be done with them? Their parents should be notified in a polite and private manner, and they should be asked to take them at once to the family physician. This will dispose of about 50%. There are some parents who are able to do this and will not. They should, in some suitable manner, be persuaded or compelled to do it. There are many parents, especially among the poor, and the newly arrived immigrants, who have no family physician. The School Nurse can do much for them. But in many cases we must rely on dispensaries and the Hospital Outdoor Departments for the treatment of the poor. We are fortunate in possessing, in Toronto, a number of hospitals where great interest is taken in outdoor patients. These hospitals will doubtless be the centres where the work of treatment for the children of the poor, following upon medical inspection of schools will naturally be carried on. But it must be remembered that the work of Medical School Inspection, as such, and the school clinic, if that is ever established, is not charitable work. It is a branch, and an important branch of the public service, and as such should be properly paid.

TEETH.

Medical inspection should, of course, include inspection of the teeth of the children, and it is important that the parents should be notified of defects in the teeth, and requested to consult their own dentist forthwith. Fifty per cent. will probably do so at once, and the School Medical Officer, School Nurse, and teacher should all continue their supervision of the case until the parent attends to the proper treatment.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Housing problems and slum conditions in Toronto, almost unknown a generation ago, are now upon us, and we cannot deal with this matter