

they produced no liquefaction of the gelatine.

Inoculated upon the surface of a freshly boiled potato the rapidity of development was found to be extreme; indeed, this property may be regarded as a characteristic of the typhoid bacillus. When transferred to some other cultivation fluids, the number and vigour of the newly formed bacilli were at once diminished, whilst in the potato they again recovered their number and dimensions. The formation of spores was found to take place in from three to four days at a temperature of 30 to 42 C., but more slowly at lower ranges, and not at all below 20 C. The results of experiments, with a view to induce typhoid fever in the lower animals, have been unsuccessful. Reviewing the results of his own and other observers' discoveries, he maintains that we are now justified in regarding the bacillus as the true cause of the typhoid process as an absolutely specific pathogenic organism. The history of its behaviour outside the human body, and whether its spores lie dormant or are capable of development in other media, must remain a subject for conjecture.

With respect to the exact mode of infection, Dr. Gaffky is led to a definite expression of his opinion, that whether the spores or bacilli be swallowed in drinking water or in other forms of food, or whether they be inhaled, in every case they pass the stomach unaffected, and only become developed and actively reproductive in those parts of the intestine in which are situated the solitary follicles and Peyer's patches.

THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH has been reorganized. Its membership now consists of seven physicians and two who are not physicians. The board intends to apply quarantine restrictions against all ports where contagious and infectious diseases exist, to the limit of the law, and if necessary, the total suspension of all communications with such ports while infected, will be advised.

PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH— ANNUAL MEETING.

The provincial board of health commenced their annual meeting May 30th. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the chairman, Dr. Covernton, read the annual address, which was adopted. A large number of communications were then read, amongst others one from the Postmaster General regretting his inability to confer more privileges upon the board in the sending out of mailed matter; and an order in council appointing the following gentlemen members of the Board for three years, dating from May 1st 1884:—Dr. Wm. Oldright, Toronto, Dr. Francis Rae, Oshawa, and Professor Galbraith, Toronto.

A letter was read from the secretary of the Lindsay local board of health, with a printed report from Horncastle of the outbreak of small pox in Carden township, also letters concerning the report to the Ladies Christian Temperance Union, and a letter from the clerk of Goderich, re small pox case in that town.

The matter of the monthly health bulletin was considered, and the discussion was concluded with the following motion: that the details connected with the health bulletin be referred to the publication committee and the Secretary, with power to act in the matter.

The committee on epidemics read a report concerning the recent outbreaks of small pox, after which the secretary gave additional verbal information concerning the various cases. A motion was adopted recommending that action be taken in the matter. Various other matters were then discussed: A motion was passed to the effect that the local board of health of Carden township be requested to supply the Provincial board with all the facts of the case, and that Dr. Wilson of Kirkfield be also asked to supply the board with informations.