

ics regarding quarantine defences. It was adopted, and the following resolutions were adopted on motion of Dr. Covernton, seconded by Dr. Yeomans:—

*Whereas* the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario have reason for belief that the quarantine station at Grosse Isle would gain great additional power in the work of protecting the inhabitants of our Dominion from the entrance of infectious diseases, by certain additions to the very admirable provisions already adopted, be it resolved that the following additional improvements be urged upon the Dominion Government: First. A steam launch or boat of sufficient size, strength and horse-power for boarding in all weather, day and night, vessels in the offing waiting for clearance. Second. Repair and extension of the western wharf sufficient for permitting vessels, on board of which, during the voyage, cholera and small-pox had occurred, to ride at anchor at low tide during the process of disinfection of such ships. Third. Requisite buildings at the extreme end of the extended wharf for a fumigating furnace, reservoir and exhaust fan, for all persons, baggage and wearing apparel which shall be removed from the ships to this building for purposes of thorough disinfection. Fourth. That as the present service is a day and night one for eight months in the year, and thus the medical superintendent and his assistant are debarred from practice, the salary of the superintendent should be an adequate one, as also that of his assistant. Fifth. That at the meeting of the Association of Executive Officers of Health of Ontario, convened for the 14th of February next, the members of the Provincial Board, or committee thereof, shall bring this subject before said meeting and suggest the propriety of concerted action on this matter of guarding against epidemic disease. Sixth. That the chairman be authorized to appoint a committee from this Board to interview the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa during the coming session of the House of Commons regarding the questions involved in the above resolutions, and that the Quebec Provincial Board of Health be invited to join with the committee of this Board in the proposed interview.

Dr. Bryce read a report of the Committee on Epidemics *re* an investigation carried out by Dr. C. S. Elliott, M.D., by authority of the Board, into an outbreak of diphtheria in the Nipissing District.

The report was adopted and satisfaction expressed at the interesting and thorough character of the report. Dr. Bryce further presented a report *re* the outbreak of typhoid at Ottawa, which was received and discussion thereon was adjourned.

*2nd Session.*—The Board met at 10.30 a.m., all the members being present. The reports of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which the Secretary presented a number of important communications, and introduced the question of enlarging the scope of the Monthly Health Bulletin. The matter was referred to the Committee on Publication. Dr. Cassidy thereafter presented a report from the Committee on ventilation on some experiments by Bouchard before the Academy of Sciences, Paris, "On the purity of expired air." The report, which will appear in MEDICAL SCIENCE, gave rise to an animated discussion, and was adopted on motion of Dr. Cassidy, seconded by Dr. Yeomans. The Board adjourned till 3 p.m.

*3rd Session.*—The Board resumed its labors, and after the minutes were read and approved, returned to the discussion of the report of the Committee on Sewerage and Water-supply in regard to the epidemic of fever at Ottawa. The report, after referring to the suddenness and widespread character of the outbreak, showed that its incidence was equal in all parts of the city supplied with Ottawa River water. After discussing the system of drainage, the superficial garbage deposits, etc., the report dealt chiefly with analyses of the river water. These, in brief, showed that the water since 1881 has constantly become worse in character, and that according to the analysis made in December last, it contains such an amount of albumenoid matter as to characterize it as being unfit for drinking purposes. The report recommended the boiling of the water in the meantime, the obtaining of the public water supply from a source less liable to contamination and fluctuation than the present supply, to make inspections of sewers, house drains and the notification of infectious diseases were strongly recommended.

The Committee on Epidemics reported further regarding the prosecution of investigations respecting inoculative protection of animals against anthrax, and the carrying on of experimental work in other departments of the work. The Committee stated that at present no facilities existed for doing such work by the Board, and introduced a memorial on