

Ontario; Dr. Harris, Secretary of State Board of Health, N.Y.; Dr. Baker, Secretary of State Board of Health, Michigan; Dr. White, Chief Officer of Health, Detroit; and Dr. Edwards, London. The President's Inaugural address was postponed till the evening. Judge Hughes, of St. Thomas, then read an excellent and instructive paper on food adulteration which elicited considerable discussion in which Drs. Oldright, W. H. Ellis, Yeomans, Wilson, M.P., Mr. Emerson Coatsworth, and others, participated, and the following resolution was passed: "That the Chairman appoint a committee to consider and report on desirable amendments to the Inspection of Food Act, with a view to secure prompt inspection and analysis of suspected commodities at the instance of private consumers. Drs. Yeomans, McLarty, Coyne, and Messrs. Farley and Casey were named. Drs. Oldright, McLarty, and Luton, were nominated a Committee to inspect and report on Sanitary Apparatus. In the evening a letter was read from Prof. W. B. Carpenter, C.B., M.D., regretting his inability to be present, and making some valuable suggestions in reference to sanitary matters.

Dr. Oldright then delivered the Inaugural Address, in which he dealt broadly with various topics of Sanitary Science and Practice, and enforced the value, particular and general, of Sanitary Conventions. Dr. W. H. Ellis, then read a valuable paper on the Impurities of Water, which elicited much general discussion, and judging by the number of questions the Doctor was called upon to answer, must have been a source of interest and instruction to many. Dr. R. W. Bruce Smith, of Sparta, and the Rev. Prof. Austin, of Alma College, St. Thomas, then followed with two valuable papers, the former on the subject of Contagion, and the latter on that of Public Schools and Health, after the discussion of which the meeting adjourned.

*September, 20th.*

The committee appointed to examine sanitary apparatus reported. They had examined the earth closets of the Earth Closet Company, 13 Jarvis Street, Toronto, and of John Cameron, No. 1 Victoria Street, and were very much

pleased with them. Their great advantage was their automatic action, which was very good and not liable to get out of order. They recommended the substitution of the dry earth system instead of the use of privy pits and cesspools, now so common. The committee had also examined the diagram of a patent trap, styled an "airsyphon trap," by Mr. J. Caldwell, of Edinburgh, Scotland, and staying at 75 Richmond Street, Toronto. On this they expressed a qualified opinion. The report was adopted.

Registrar McLaohlan, of St. Thomas, in supporting it, made some remarks as to the adoption by municipalities of the earth-closet system.

Dr. J. Coventry, of Windsor, read a paper on the prevention of small-pox. He said that the following diseases were, to a large extent, preventable, viz., cholera, yellow fever, typhoid and scarlet fever, small-pox, diphtheria, measles, and whooping-cough. These diseases might all be circumvented by isolation and disinfection. He gave an account of the restriction of scarlet fever in Windsor during the present year. The physicians were required to report all cases within twenty-four hours after discovery. The house was at once placarded with the name of the disease, and where possible one large room was selected as a hospital, and carpets, window hangings, and upholstered furniture removed. The members of the family attacked were taken to this room and kept there until all shedding of the skin had taken place. No members of the family were allowed to leave the premises except those who did not come in contact with the infected members. After recovery and exfoliation strong sulphurous soap was used to wash with, and all clothing was thoroughly disinfected by means of sulphurous acid gas. No public funeral was permitted; interment was urged without delay, and the hearse and carriages were at once disinfected. During part of the epidemic the schools were closed. The citizens lent all their aid to co-operate with the board. Small-pox made its appearance in the same town last April, and similar measures were adopted, with the addition of vaccination. None but citizens had power to pass compulsory vaccination laws. This power, under the approval of the Board of Health, should undoubtedly be extended to other municipalities.