

four physicians would be thus constantly employed, and paid \$2,000 each per year, thus diverting \$8,000 out of the \$80,000. Does any one doubt that this sum would be saved from the \$80,000 now necessary to be expended in paying physicians for the cure of sickness? Possibly it might not decrease the sickness 10 per cent. the first year, but I firmly believe that if continued it would be a paying investment in the end, for the physicians so employed would gradually become sanitarians; and in order for this to be a paying investment the first year, it is not necessary that the sickness be reduced by 10 per cent, because the doctor's fee is frequently only a small part of the expense of sickness.

In Detroit, in Bay City, in Grand Haven, and, perhaps, in other cities in Michigan, it seems to be considered too expensive to have a health officer and pay him, as should be done, two thousand dollars a year, and require his entire energies to be put forth for the prevention of sickness and deaths. I suppose that one reason for this state of things is that to have a health officer requires some action on the part of city officials, and, perhaps, a vote to pay him his salary, while it is possible, for instance in the city of Detroit, to permit the people of the city to pay \$200,000 a year for physicians without any official action whatever.

We understand very well that there are taxes which come by assessments because of official action—it may be well for us to understand that there are also heavy expenses which may sometimes come upon us without official assessment, and even because of neglect to provide for assessments to prevent such heavy expenses.

In my plea for better methods I refer to the expense for physicians only, for purposes of illustration, because it is for personal services somewhat analogous to those which would be given by a health officer, and because the facts are easily obtained and their bearing easily understood. I do not see how a rational person can examine the facts, and not be convinced that at least one skilled physician and sanitarian should be constantly employed as a health officer in every city and village in the State, and from time to time in every township.

“KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.”

Never yet has the public health service of Detroit, Bay City, Adrian, Jackson, or indeed of any city in Michigan been properly or-