

There are to be eight assistant medical inspectors at \$800 a year. There will be one superintendent of nurses at \$1,800 a year, seventeen school nurses at \$600 each, or a total of \$10,200. One clerk at \$600, supplies are put at \$300, miscellaneous outlays at \$500, and dental inspection at \$1,200. This makes a grand total of \$23,500.

A movement was set on foot that the medical inspection of the schools should be under the Medical Health Officer. This we have on a former occasion opposed. The Board of Education is expending the money on the improvement of the conditions of our public schools, and this board ought to have the management of the inspection.

We are glad that the city has at last decided to do something worthy of its name.

THE VALUE OF REPORTING INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Within the past few days the papers have been telling us that doctors are not reporting the cases of infectious diseases that come under their observation.

This is not news to the medical profession; for we think it has long been known that there has been marked indifference in the matter of reporting these cases by some members of the medical profession.

In a circular letter sent out recently by Dr. Hastings, M.H.O., the section of the Health Act is quoted to the effect that "Diphtheria, small-pox, scarlet fever, cholera, typhoid fever, measles, whooping cough, or other diseases dangerous to the public health," should be reported.

We are of the opinion that very few reported cases of measles or whooping cough. Typhoid fever may have been reported by some, but it certainly was not the general practice to do so. Mild cases of scarlet fever may often have been left unmentioned.

We have had the reporting of infectious diseases in Toronto for many years, and we are of the opinion that the practice has not materially lessened the incidence of these diseases.

So far as measles and whooping cough are concerned, it comes to this, that every one who is born and lives will one day have both of these diseases. We think that all efforts to prevent their spread are quite useless. Coming to typhoid fever, it might turn out that the city is guiltier than the people. The city supplies the people with infected water. Typhoid is very rarely contracted from person to person. All over the country and in all the cities of the country are those whose excreta are contaminating water and milk. Before municipalities say too much, they had better put their own houses in order. They should not sell disease-laden water.