

kind held in Woodstock, but he was sorry to see that the meetings were not as well attended as they should be. "Our town has been so healthy that we have not had much need for such things in the past, but now the town is becoming of sufficient size to make sanitation something that must be attended to."

Dr. H. M. MacKay, Chairman, thereafter read the opening address.

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN.

By Dr. H. M. MACKAY, WOODSTOCK.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I consider it an honour to preside at this meeting. I am not, however, insensible to the difficulties and responsibilities attached to the task of delivering "the Chairman's address," which should be pitched in a key of no uncertain sound; and I only wish I could command words befitting the occasion, that I might introduce and press home with the emphasis it deserves the importance of the subjects about to be discussed.

We may well congratulate ourselves upon the excellent programme that has been provided, and we cannot but feel pleased to know that so many men of ability, specialists in their respective departments, could spare the time to leave their homes, no doubt at considerable inconvenience and sacrifice, to come here to assist in promoting sanitary science. The names on the programme, many of whom have a wider than provincial reputation, give sufficient guarantee that the readings and discussions will be of a high order of merit. And we are all grateful for the kindness and courtesy that delegated to our convention a distinguished sanitarian from Michigan, a state where sanitary science has made and is making rapid progress.

Seeing that there is a large amount of work to be gone over, I will take the liberty of repeating a suggestion made by Dr. Bryce, the Secretary of the Association of Executive Health Officers, during the preliminary arrangements for this conference. And we all know that the doctor means business when he takes anything in hand. It was this: "We must try and eliminate all discursiveness from the discussions." The advice is good. We are told that "one fact is worth a shipload of theory." There is no desire, however, on the part of anyone to interfere with a free and full discussion of the different subjects as they are presented; but rather that every one present be afforded an opportunity of contributing to the general fund of information.