

One of the hopeful signs of the times is that municipalities are beginning to wake up and take steps to better the situation. The appointment of a Milk Commission by the Ontario Government was a very proper act. Following the report of the Commission we may hope for some legislation that will do much good by bringing the milk traffic more under control.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

Much good work has been done on this very important matter, but there remains much yet to do. If we return to this subject again, it is because its importance demands that it often be put in evidence.

Boston was perhaps the first city on this continent to adopt medical inspection of school children. The plan there has been that the teacher sends down a slip of paper with the name and leading symptoms. The medical inspector only sees these children. This has its weak points, as many cases of sickness are overlooked, through the inattention or ignorance of the teacher, or the fact that they may not believe in the principle of medical inspection. Nevertheless, much good has been done in Boston.

The introduction of the nurse into this work has added much to its efficiency. These women are much more capable of detecting disease than the teacher, and they are on the alert, which is not always the case with the teacher. Then, further, they are anxious to reveal the presence of illness of every sort, while the teacher has been found sometimes showing a desire to conceal the sickness of the pupil. In Boston the school nurse has been the means of doing much good.

In this work of inspection there should be as much co-operation between the teacher, the nurse and the physician as possible. The inspection should go much further than the mere exclusion of contagious diseases. There are many states of ill health that call for the pupil being sent home for a time for proper rest and treatment. Among such we might mention chorea, hip disease, spinal curvature, certain refractive errors, etc.

On thing is clear, enough has been done in many countries to show that much more must be done.

THE HOSPITALS OF TORONTO.

For a long time the condition of the hospitals of Toronto were not what they should have been; but for this there were many reasons. Lack of money, however, was the root of most of the trouble.