

and laboratory. In the same way it is only after repeated charging that the contact beds become well stocked with their colonies of bacilli, and that the nitrifying action reaches its maximum; continuous improvement in this respect may go on for weeks after the inception of an installation.

The scum, under favorable conditions, attains considerable thickness and density, and, in places where the risk of nuisance from putrefactive decomposition is negligible, its presence has sometimes been trusted to, with comparative success, in place of an artificial airtight tank covering, for the development and maintenance of septic action.

Experimental work has been carried on in England, and on the European Continent, in the effort to substitute "continuous" for "intermittent" contact beds. Under this method, the tank effluent is distributed over the surface in a finely divided state, and, as under such circumstances, aeration takes place simultaneously with filtration, the necessary volume of filtering material should, theoretically, be reduced. This method will probably prove best suited to climates which are free from extremes of temperature.

In preparing these notes the author is largely indebted to the reports and writings of many whose names are mentioned in the paper, those of Dr. Thudicum, Dr. Simms Woodhead, and others.

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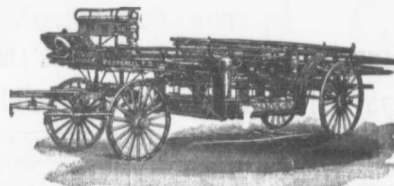
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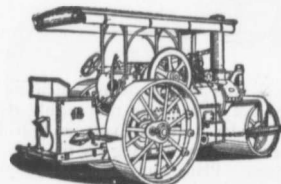
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