

municipality to establish public water-works without first obtaining the Board's approval of the plans, etc.

The approval of the Board will also be required previous to the construction of a sewer, system of sewerage, or method for the disposal of sewage, and no change in the construction of sewers or in the disposal of sewage therefrom, liable to injuriously affect the public health, shall be made without the Board's consent. Appeals may be carried to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council against the ruling of the Provincial Board in these matters.

Powers are also given to a health officer to prevent blood, offal, etc., from being fed to hogs.

An important amendment is made to section 61 of the Health Act. It interests municipalities and individuals who may be injured through nuisances caused wholly or in part by some act or default committed, or which has taken place in another municipality or district. The amendment provides that the municipality or district affected by the nuisance may institute an inspection without being guilty of trespass.

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#### AMENDMENT TO THE PHARMACY ACT.

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The amendment to the Pharmacy Act, which we print at page 143, is important.

The making or dealing in any patent or proprietary medicines is not affected or interfered with. Provision is made, however, by which certain medicines of evil repute—"female regulators," "specific monthly

medicines," and others of a similar class—may be dealt with by the Provincial Board of Health. Some of these medicines are advertised in italics as "successfully used monthly by thousands of ladies." This certainly means that they are represented to be abortifacients, and may be therefore dangerous to health and life. They should be submitted to analysis and their true character revealed.

The unregulated use of morphine in cough medicines demands investigation. We understand from a druggist that a certain popular cough syrup containing morphine is used by some of his customers for a very considerable time. This is certainly a practice not conducive to health.

Headache powders containing antipyrine and phenacetine are also extensively and regularly used by the public without consulting physicians. This is also reprehensible.

The amendment is a short step in the right direction. Should the results of the analyses reveal the necessity for scheduling important patent or proprietary remedies in the interest of the public health, further legislation may be required.

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#### EXHUMATION OF CORPSES OF DIPHTHERIA PATIENTS.

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In an editorial which appeared in this journal last July, we censured the practice of exhuming the corpses of persons who had died from contagious diseases, and commended the action of the Toronto General Burying Grounds Trust, who in May, 1894, passed a regulation which reads: "Bodies of persons dying of con-