

may with advantage avail themselves of the services of the medical Health Officers in their respective localities, and thus co-operate with the local health authorities. This was provided for in the construction of the Public Health Act.

Among the duties of the Medical Officer the Local Health By-law provides that "he *may, if thought advisable by the school trustees*, act as Medical Inspector of Schools as well as Advisory Officer in matters pertaining to school hygiene." If the Medical Health Officer were properly remunerated and permitted to perform all the duties as Sanitary Inspector of Schools contemplated in the spirit and intention of the Public Health Act, we feel assured that Sanitary reforms would proceed more rapidly in our schools. Being appointed especially for sanitary work, he would occupy an entirely different position from trustees or other school officers, whose duties embrace all matters connected with educational affairs, construction and maintenance of school buildings and various other things. The Medical Officer would be able to direct his undivided attention to school hygiene. He might, with profit, also give instruction in hygiene by familiar lectures and practical experiments, by introducing improved methods of ventilation where necessary, by frequently testing the water supply, the air of school rooms and adopting various practical measures for securing the health of pupils.

These methods of instruction in school hygiene would make a most favourable and lasting impression on the minds of all the pupils and stimulate the local health and school authorities to more active interest in sanitary matters generally. With regard to instruction in school hygiene, I noticed in the report of the proceedings of the ninth International Medical Congress, held last Septem-

ber, in Washington, the following:—Resolved—That the section on hygiene cordially endorse the suggestions contained in the paper read by Dr. Cooke, of Nashville, Tennessee, as to the necessity of teaching hygiene in Public Schools, and recommends the following resolutions:—

That it is the opinion of the ninth International Congress—

1. That in all the Universities and High Schools hygiene should form a part of the compulsory course of study, and should be taught not simply from text-books, but by educated physicians.

2. That in all Public Schools the teaching of hygiene should form a prominent and essential feature.

3. That every State should establish a museum and laboratory of hygiene.

Upon enquiring I find that in many of the High Schools of the United States instruction in hygiene by physicians especially appointed for that purpose has been adopted with satisfactory results:

The first systematic medical inspection of schools is reported to have taken place in Belgium. Since then it has been adopted with good results in other parts of Europe.

A personal inspection of schools in New York State was made under the direction of the State Board of Health a few years ago. Dr. Lincoln made an elaborate report of this inspection, a perusal of which will amply repay any one, as it contains a great deal of useful practical information on school hygiene. Much good has been accomplished as a result of this inspection, not only in the United States, but in other countries also.

The report by Dr. Covernton, who represented the Provincial Board of Health, of the discussion on the sanitary supervision of schools at the General International Health Congress in 1882, contains the following