

more complex problems, such as the overcrowding of tenements, the ventilating of factories and work-shops, the employment of children in factories and the compulsory half-day system of schools for such, the establishment of playgrounds for down-town children, and the study of the diseases peculiar to school children of these districts, whether due to over-crowding, defective lighting, or insufficient or unwholesome foods. This surely is a programme sufficiently comprehensive for this Association, but one not at all too ambitious for a Society, whose members more than any other have, or ought to have, the most intimate knowledge of the lives, occupations and health of the people of their several communities. I can understand the busy health officer saying that he has enough to do to take scarlatina cases from houses, without studying their origin, and that the most he ought to be expected to do is to get notification of tuberculosis and distribute literature for limiting its dangers; but never so will he stamp out scarlatina or greatly lessen consumption. He, more than any or all others, can at first-hand get the primary facts with regard to the population under his charge, and he, more than any other, can be the guide, counsellor and friend of every official or non-official agency having for its object the amelioration of the social condition of the people.

I am perfectly aware that as things go, whether in the United States or Canada, the sanitary officer, who attacks severely, say the smoke nuisance of factories, the over-crowding of tenements or the over-working of children, will find often that his life, like that of Gilbert and Sullivan's policeman,—"is not a happy one!", but scarcely need it be said that no health officer, or indeed any officer, can reform evils without a struggle. It is the appointed way. He must say, as Brown-ing makes his Paracelsus speak:

"I have a life

"To give; I singled out for this, the One."

But to enter more into detail, I would recall how closely Sanitary work was associated with charity work in those days, when the great father of sanitation, Edwin Chadwick, wrote, in 1832 and following years, papers on "Preventive Police," "Public Charities in France," "The Slums of London," became Secretary to the Commission for revising the Poor Law, was first Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths and Secretary of the first London Board of Health. Today we find a great Charity Organization Society, consisting of 38 District Councillors in London (one or more in each Poor Law District) and a Central Council at which every council is represented