

is essential, however, to bear in mind that a profit should not be looked for by the locality establishing the sewage farm, and only a moderate one by the farmer.

' 2. With regard to the various processes based upon subsidence, precipitation or filtration, it is evident that in some of them a sufficiently purified effluent can be produced for discharge, without injurious result, *into water-courses and rivers of sufficient magnitude for its considerable dilution* ; and that for many towns, where land is not readily obtained at a moderate price, those particular processes afford the most suitable means of disposing of water-carried sewage. It appears, further, that the sludge, in a manurial point of view, is of low and uncertain commercial value ; that the cost of its conversion into a valuable manure will preclude the attainment of any adequate return on the outlay and working expenses connected therewith, and that means must therefore be used for getting rid of it without reference to possible profit.

' 3. In towns where a water-carried system is employed, a rapid flow, thorough ventilation, a proper connection of the house drains and pipes with the sewers, and their arrangement and maintenance in an efficient condition, are absolutely essential as regards health ; hitherto sufficient precautions have rarely been taken for efficiently insuring all the foregoing conditions.

' 4. With regard to the various dry systems, where collection at short intervals is properly carried out, the result, appears to be satisfactory ; but no real profitable application of any of them appears as yet to have been accomplished.

' 5. The old midden or privy system, in populous districts, should be discontinued, and prohibited by law.

' 6. Sufficient information was not brought forward at the conference to enable the committee to express an opinion in regard to any of the foreign systems.

' 7. It was conclusively shown that no one system for disposing of sewage could be adopted for universal use ; that different localities require different methods, to suit their special peculiarities, and also that, as a rule, no profit can be derived at present from sewage utilization.

' 8. For health sake, without consideration of commercial profit, sewage and excreta must be got rid of at any cost.

' The executive committee, whilst abstaining from submitting any extensive measures, have no hesitation in recommending that the prevention of dangerous effects from sewage gases should receive the immediate attention of the Legislature, and they submit the following resolutions as the basis of petitions to Parliament :—

' 1. That the protection of public health from typhoid and other diseases, demands that an amending Act of Parliament be passed, as soon as possible, to secure that all house drains connected with public sewers in the metropolis and towns having an urban authority, should be placed under the inspection and control of local sani-