

## MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

The regular quarterly meeting of this Board, was held on November 29th. Dr. Oldright, Chairman, presiding. There were present also, Dr. Rae, of Oshawa, Dr. Yeomans, of Mount Forest, Covernton and Cassidy, of Toronto, and the Secretary, Dr. Bryce. After the reading of the usual minutes, the Chairman referred to the steps taken by the city in regard to the appointment of Sanitary Police shortly after the recommendations made by the Board, and said that the city Medical Health Officer had thereby gained much information that would be of use to him in future for further sanitary reform.

Dr. Bryce read a number of letters from different towns in the Province in regard to the establishment of Local Boards of Health.

Dr. Covernton referred to a letter received from a baker, in reference to a diminution in the consumption of bread in oppressive weather. Only a speculative answer could be given.

Dr. Yeomans read the report of the Committee on School Hygiene. There were 480,000 pupils and 7,000 teachers in Ontario, and there was spent annually in the interests of education in the Public Schools about \$3,400,000. During school a large part of existing disease and deformity was acquired, and the efficiency of teachers was greatly lessened and the physical and mental development of pupils retarded through neglect of school hygiene. They could educate the rising generation on the subject and thereby promote the health of the youth and influence opinion through the schools, and the ultimate effect would be to render the enforcement of sanitary legislation an easy task, by educating the mass of the

people in the great benefits resulting from an intelligent obedience to the laws of health. There were causes of disease which no legislation could reach. It would become the Board to consider the advisability of admitting a standard of air space as one to be recommended to the Province. 1,000 cubic feet he thought should be allowed to each pupil. He referred to the great reduction in the prevalence of infectious disease in the Hamilton schools from the adoption of the health reports or notifications.

Dr. Cassidy read the report of the Committee on the Smoke nuisance. Smoke was considered to be injurious to vegetation. Regarding its influence on animal life there was difference of opinion. It might be made obligatory on all who used steam engines to burn coke or hard coal. The gas engine might be used in some cases.

At Friday's meeting, the report on school hygiene was adopted, after a full discussion, and a resolution was passed that the minimum of air space should in no case be less than 500 cubic feet for each pupil, and this small space only in cases where the air can be changed six times per hour, and thus allow 3,000 cubic feet of breathing air per hour per head. A lengthy report on the condition of Ashbridges Bay was considered and adopted.

Drs. Covernton and Cassidy, the Chairman and Secretary, were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the holding of the Sanitary Convention at Ottawa, and also to secure a course of lectures in Toronto. Dr. Yeomans read the reports of the delegates to the Sanitary Convention at Kingston, in September last, which were adopted. The Board adjourned to meet again in a week or two.

**THE BEST SPRING BED.**—We have slept on a good many sorts of spring beds, but never on one so pleasantly yielding and agreeable as the "Beenholt's Metallic," folding, sold by Hewlett Bros., 152 King Street West, Toronto.

DIO' LEWIS says "the corset must go," but he cannot have seen Ball's Health Corset, with coil spring elastic sides. The most extreme "health reformer" need not object to it.