

only in part by nature. Refuse of the animal kingdom is food for the vegetable kingdom but when man and beast congregate in masses nature is no longer able to meet the demands.

Privy drains, and consequently privy pits in large part cause the public sewers to become very foul owing to the insufficient water supply failing to carry off the solids contained in the sewage, thus defeating the ends for which sewers were constructed, namely to carry off the fecal matter as speedily and as far as possible from the city.

In relation to privy pits, the problem confronting the civic authorities is that of adopting some simple, effective, and yet not expensive substitute for the abominable privy pit with its disagreeable and dangerous accessories. The landlords complain of the enormous expense which they will be obliged to sustain in the event of non-freezing water closets being made compulsory by reason of the necessity of constructing enormously long drains in order to connect the water closet with the public sewer. This, doubtless, is an objection worthy of consideration. The following is a scheme which appears to receive general approbation by

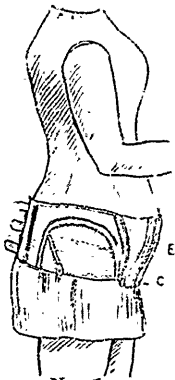
those interested in removing the difficulty. The majority of privy pits are located at the rear end of the lots and immediately adjoin lanes. In the removal of these pits and substitution of non-freezing water closets all lanes should be first provided with small sewers to which all outside water closets (also indoor closets if desired) may be connected by a short drain; in the majority of cases such a drain connection would not exceed ten feet in length, thus avoiding the construction of long drain connections through yards and under cellar floors. This is an inexpensive method of construction, and removes the dangers arising from defective drains under cellar floors; the water closet is remote from the dwelling and the lane is thoroughly drained. The cost of construction of small pipe sewers in lanes, made at the joint expense of the property holders as compared with the cost of construction of individual long house drain to the sewer on the public street is very small indeed.

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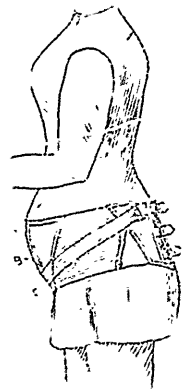


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