

deal about children's diseases, something about schools, a good deal about general hygiene, and something of the world.

The mode of appointment differs in different countries. In some places the chief sanitary authority, for example, the County or City Medical Health Officer, is required or expected, often with little or no remuneration, to undertake the work. This is manifestly unfair, and, moreover, it is possible that an excellent Medical Health Officer, specially trained in sanitary science, might not be the best person to appoint as School Medical Officer and deal with the diseases and defects and general physical welfare of school children.

In the first circular issued on the subject by the British Government, published in full in the *British Medical Journal* of November 30th, 1907, it was advised that the work should be organized under the Local Medical Officer of Health. To this advice exception was taken by the medical profession, the *British Medical Journal*, and by the lay press, especially *The Times*, in a leader published November 25th, 1907. Two things seem clear. Unless the Medical Health Officer is appointed, then the School Medical Officer, whether he is formally appointed as one of the assistants of the Medical Health Officer or not, must be in close touch with him, and should work in constant harmony with him. In many cases, both in Britain and Canada, we know that the Medical Health Officer would be the ideal appointee as School Medical Officer. Perhaps in other cases he might not.

On the other hand, as the work of the School Medical Officer is done under the direction of the School Board, and as they should pay him a reasonable and proper salary for it, then the appointment should rest with them, and they should appoint the best available physician for the work.

As to the question of remuneration, the Council of the British Medical Association has dealt with the matter and advised that the School Medical Officer be paid at the rate of £50 a year for an attendance of half a school day a week, half a school day being defined as two hours. If whole-time appointments are made, they consider that competent officers will not be attracted for a less salary than £500 per annum. It costs more to live in Canada than in Great Britain. Of course, much must depend on the time taken to examine each child. There seems to be a general feeling that not more than twelve can be examined in an hour, on an average, but that there will often be special cases requiring fifteen minutes or half an hour. Some English authorities have arranged to pay at