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REPORT ON SANITARY SCIENCE.

By DR. BOTSFORD, of St. John, N.B. Read before the Canada Medical Association at its Meeting in Ottawa, September 1st, 1880.

In accordance with the request of the Association at its last meeting, I have the honor to submit a few remarks upon the subject of Sanitary Science, and in doing this will confine myself to the relationship of State legislation to hygiene, adducing a few facts to shew the result of wise interference.

Hygiene, as its derivation denotes, touches upon the health and soundness of the body, and it embraces in its consideration all the rules and conditions which tend to the well-being of men, whether these relate to the individual, to communities, or to a nation at large.

Hygiene refers rather to the physical conditions, and though these may be much influenced by the moral surroundings, and act and re-act upon them, yet the moral phase comes more under the consideration of another department, that of Social Science.

It is somewhat remarkable that man should have devoted so much energy to fathom the unseen and the spiritual, and yet only of late has directed his attention to the physical laws which minister to his health and happiness, or which undermine his

vitality and usefulness. With a strange fascination he endeavors to soar into the regions of the mysterious and leave unconsidered the tangible, which has so much to do with his daily life.

Many of us can remember how much time was devoted to the languages, ancient and modern, how much to mathematics, to natural philosophy, and how the relation of the body to what was touching it on every side formed no part of education: and even now our educational systems and institutions of learning are greatly deficient in teaching the hygienic conditions which envelope us.*

Subject of Question.	Attention paid.	No attention.	Doubtful or no response.	Per Centages of	
				pay attention.	Do which do not, or do not respond.
Public Hygiene	11	35	16	17.74	82.21
State Preventive Medicine.	4	39	19	6.45	93.55
Private Hygiene.....	23	25	14	37.09	62.91
Special Inst'ns in Hygiene	5	34	23	8.06	91.92
Full Course Hygiene.....	3	13	46	4.84	95.14

Centennial, Bowditch, p. 285.

23 Medical Colleges.

Public Hygiene	9	10	4	39	60
State Preventive Medicine.	7	12	4	36	69
Private Hygiene.....	9	10	4	39	60
Special Professorships...	5	18		21	78
Full Course.....	5	17	1	21	78
Subsidiary Course	11	11	1	47	52

* Results from 62 Colleges exclusive of Medical Colleges.