EDITORIAL.

would be charged for their hospital care. For the poor there would be free accommodation. This, we are confident, in the end would not come to more money than the alternate plan of handing over a large sum to the National Sanitarium Association, with the understanding that a certain amount of accommodation be furnished the city. Weston is too far away from the city. We must consider the future, the comfort of the people, and the convenience of the medical profession. We ask the doctors to look into this matter promptly.

SMALLPOX.

This disease may be said to be constantly present in this country. One can scarcely pick up a paper in which he does not see cases of the disease as occurring in some portion of the country.

It is not necessary to argue the merits of vaccination. By every test known this has been settled in the affirmative. Yet legislators do not embody this knowledge in a clear and distinct pronouncement of law.

When one asks why this is so the answer is two-fold: First, the fear of offending those who have votes; and, second, the ignorance of lawmakers. It is rather a strange thing that Britain, which gave vaccination to the world, keeps smallpox.

It should be borne in mind that much of the vaccination of the past has been very questionably performed, and so the operation has fallen into disfavor when it ought not. The arm is not made clean or kept clean, poor vaccine is used, the arm is too deeply scratched, the markings are too close to each other and become confluent, or only one tiny mark is made. From all this the public see poor results, and conclude that the science of vaccination is wrong rather than that of application.

But medical men are very much at fault. They should inform parents about vaccination. They should make it clear that it should be done, and also what disease it protects against. This, we think, is but little done. The cost of smallpox to this country is now becoming a serious question.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Wherever medical inspection of school children has been adopted the facts revealed have fully justified the expenditures. In Britain, the United States, and Canada use has been made of medical inspection of school children to some extent.

In the large cities in Britain the results were just what might have been expected. So in some of the large cities in the Unitd States. Here