

a number of the inhabitants, but a large majority rebelled, and even threatened the authorities if compulsion was adopted. The Board felt disposed to let them down easy. It is a difficult matter to enforce law here.

A BRIGHTER SIDE, TO A SMALL EXTENT.

Dr. Hamilton, of Elma, a flat township with loamy soil, reports: With reference to diphtheria, about which I have already spoken, I am happy to say that the very efficient drainage has proved a very great benefit in the way of helping to stamp out this disease which was once very prevalent here. I don't think we have one case for

every ten of former years, which goes to show that the moist soil and atmosphere were favorable to the spread of the diphtheritic microbe.

Dr. Lake, Ridgetown, says. Great improvements have been made in regard to the drainage of certain parts of the town. The dry earth system in regard to privies has been made universal, this combined with drainage and properly enforced will, I have no doubt, render our town one of the healthiest in the Province. Up to the end of the year the town has been in a remarkably healthy condition.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND EXTRACTS.

REMARKABLE COLLECTIONS OF BACTERIA.

In the bacteriological museum in connection with the recent Congress of Hygiene in London the following collections of bacteria were exhibited:—The Bacteriological Laboratory of Oxford showed sixty different species of bacteria, some of them harmless, and some of dangerous varieties, among the latter being the germ of Asiatic cholera. Sir Henry Boscoe and Mr. Joseph Lunt showed bacteria cultivated from sewage, most of which presented pleasing hues when viewed under the microscope. The germ which produces distemper in dogs was shown by Mr. Millais; while M. Nocard enabled one to compare the bacilli of tuberculosis in man, the horse, pig, pheasant, and pigeon. Professor Kral, of Prague, had a collection of all the microbes at present known, cultivated, according to character, on potato, agar, or turnip. The bacillus producing decay in teeth was shown by Mr. Sewell, in the process of causing the same effect on sound teeth on which it had been cultivated. Dr. Washbourne, of Guy's Hospital showed the microbes of anthrax, pneumonia, and tuberculosis in various stages of existence. Mr. Hunter exhibited chemical poisons of ptomaines produced by germs. Mr. Sheridan Delepine had a collection of sections of skin displaying the bacteria of leprosy. It is found that bacteria thrive best—and they do thrive so as to multiply in a very short space of time by the millionfold—on agar, a jelly formed by boiling an Indian weed.

THE COMMUNICABILITY OF TUBERCULOSIS FROM ANIMALS TO MAN.

The following is a very short abstract of the discussion on this subject at the July annual meeting of the British Medical Association, as reported in the British Medical Journal: Dr. G. S. Woodhead said, that from the results obtained by all observers, there could be little doubt that the milk obtained from tuberculous animals might be instrumental in communicating the disease from animals to man, and that there was great necessity for legislation on this question. The first thing to be done was to insist that a regular staff of veterinary inspectors, well trained for this special work, should be appointed whose duty it should be (1) to examine fortnightly all cattle giving a milk supply, and who should have the power to order isolation of all cattle in which the presence of tuberculosis was suspected; (2) that it should be penal for any dairy farmer to throw into his milk supply the milk from any cattle which had been isolated by the veterinary inspectors; (3) moreover, no phthisical patient should be allowed to have charge of any department in a dairy. With respect to meat the question was much more difficult, for after most careful experimentation it had been found that in only a certain proportion of cattle affected with tuberculosis did there seem to be any great danger to be anticipated from the ingestion of the flesh, but it must be remembered that tuberculosis in cattle was much more common than was