

There was no history of any previous outbreak, and the farmers were quite sure that they had never seen this disease amongst their cattle before.

In connection with the outbreak, the veterinary surgeon who examined some of the carcasses, and also the two men who cut up those sent to the knacker's yard, became infected and suffered severely; in fact, for some weeks the recovery of the surgeon seemed doubtful, and the final result was the loss of one hand.

The public, generally, do not seem aware of the danger of infection, since in five instances, at least, the inspectors discovered the disease through carcasses found in the slaughter-house being dressed for human food. Excision of inoculated parts on the hands and arms of two other surgeons at their request, prevented more serious, and probably fatal consequences.

Small-pox.

The present has become an anxious time for those whose special work imposes upon them the duty of preventing the introduction of contagious diseases. Small-pox, which in 1885 was epidemic in Quebec Province, notably in Montreal, has for some time been showing its presence in various quarters, notably in New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco. The April Bulletin of the North Carolina Board of Health, states that small-pox appeared in Goldboro, being imported from New York by an immigrant. The case came from Glasgow, on steamship *Circassia*, on which a fatal case occurred. The ship was quarantined at New York only nine hours. In April a case was introduced into Grenville Co., Ontario, by a horse-dealer from New York; and, reported May 15th, by the Quebec Provincial Board, a case is stated to have occurred in Quebec city, in a female, who states that she had a visit from a brother from the States. When it is stated that Philadelphia had had some 75 cases during the past three months, and New York at least as many more, it having also appeared in Syracuse and elsewhere, it is apparent that we, in Ontario, must prepare ourselves for outbreaks of this disease. Local Boards are therefore reminded of their duties and powers under the Public Health and Vaccination Acts, and they will do well to at once institute, as in 1885, the public system of vaccination. A case is just reported from Buffalo.

MUNICIPAL HYGIENE

Isolation Hospitals.

Lindsay and *Ops* township have arranged for the establishment of an Isolation Diseases Hospital, for treatment of diphtheria, etc. The town agrees to pay two-thirds and the township one-third of the expense of fitting up, etc., each to be responsible for care of its own patients.

Whitby, after a year of attempts to stamp out diphtheria, has concluded that an isolation hospital will be necessary, and are arranging for the use of the old town-hall, and fitting it up for this purpose.

Guelph has a small isolation hospital.

Galt is preparing plans for a hospital, in connection with which, it is hoped to have contagious diseases wards.

Obstruction of the Ottawa.

Some important testimony was extracted at the examination of the witnesses by the Senate committee on the pollution and obstruction of the Ottawa River last month. It was essentially the oldest inhabitants' day, and comparisons made between the state of the river in the early days and now were very odious to the present time. Two valuable facts were ascertained, namely, that one mill owner on the river, Mr. W. C. Edwards, of Rockland, got rid of all his sawdust by a furnace specially constructed for the purpose, and the other was that there was nothing to prevent Chaudiere mill owners, who are the greatest offenders in this respect, from doing likewise. The cost of such a method of getting rid of it was not at all prohibitory. Nearly all the witnesses testified to the poisoning of fish by the rotting sawdust. Mr. Wm. P. Lett, city clerk, said that when the fish were plentiful in the river fish food formed quite an item in the bill of fare of the people along the banks. He made an estimate that if fish were allowed to multiply in the natural way, the fish product of Ottawa River would be worth \$100,000 a year. With regard to the obstruction of navigation, it was shown that all the bays between the city and Rockland were already almost filled up and that the next process must be the filling up of the channel. In some cases the channels which were not originally of great depth had been filled up. The work of getting rid of the sawdust at the terminus of the Rideau canal was yearly becoming the source of