

in each pupil and his belongings, are, in my opinion, the rights of the scholar.

I have had in the past the audacity to suggest that some children would be helped by being cleaned and clothed, and have been laughed at for my temerity, but if those whom I am now addressing have seen some scholars as I have seen them, who have been compelled to attend school and sit with others whose odors mark their nationality, as well as their family connections, and stigmatize their home surroundings, they would believe with me that there was more force than fiction in the suggestion. The Provincial Board of Health last year very properly provided for the personal inspection of every pupil and every absontee, where a case of scarlet fever or diphtheria appeared amongst the pupils of a public school. I will not say that in Toronto that has been done with mathematical exactness, because we have over 30,000 school children to supervise, but I am proud to say that the work has been done in the spirit, and with the assurance that it would prove satisfactory to all who care to study our methods. The medical inspector is required to make constant and repeated visits to the school-room for the purpose of detecting, by a skilled medical examination, the existence of latent disease or overlooked infection amongst the pupils; furthermore to examine the absentees with a view to definitely understand and report in form the cause of such absence, so that the reason for the non-attendance of such at school will be on file in the Health Office.

We must not forget that parents are compelled to send their children to school, and it is the bounden duty of the Health authorities and the municipality to see that every security is afforded them to avoid contact with infectious diseases.