

protection of the public, when the sanitary authority has reasons for believing the truth of an allegation of inability to sustain pecuniary loss on account of poverty;

3. By extending the provisions of Clause 126 of the Public Health Act (1875), by inserting one making it a misdemeanor for persons to endanger the lives and health of their fellow creatures by wilfully spreading communicable disease in any way—an amendment which has recently formed the subject of a petition of the health officers of the country to both Houses of Parliament.

The proposal to place trades under the control of the health authority of the district in which they may be situated must sooner or later be carried out. It is merely a question as to the time when the public will become as fully alive to the importance of the subject as medical men already are.

There can be nothing unfair in expending public money in giving compensation to a very poor and struggling tradesman, when a sanitary authority compulsorily closes for a short time his business in the interests of the public. Sanitary authorities already possess the power of giving compensation to the owner on account of bedding, clothing and other articles exposed to infection which they wish to have destroyed.

Again, when schools are closed under the advice of the health authority, in consequence of the presence of infectious disease, a certain compensation is granted to them in not requiring the same number of attendances as is usually needful to secure the Government grant.

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THE KITCHEN.—Until the kitchen becomes thoroughly and systematically organised, and is regarded as one of the most important of household departments, there can be no such thing as habitual health in the family. Bad cooking poisons more persons than all the nauseous drugs ever administered to poor humanity, and it is the remote cause for the employment of two-thirds of all the divorce lawyers in existence.