

situation, suppression of hemorrhoids or of pathological and physiological secretions, venereal excesses, irregularity of sleep, or fatigue of the eyes from want of sleep." As a diagnostic medium alone, this work should be in the hands of every practitioner seeking to attain to exactness in diagnosis of disease, but especially of those diseases having, as so many have, a neurotic basis.

University Department of Biology.

It is with pleasure that we notice the approval by the Legislature of the proposition to expend \$30,000 on a new building in the Queen's Park for the Department of Biology. The rapid strides which biology has made even since the date at which the School of Practical Science was erected, have made it apparent that more laboratories and greater facilities for carrying on experimental work are necessary for satisfactory work. We understand that the construction of the building is to be pushed so that it may be occupied at the beginning of next session. The advantages to the

science students will no doubt be equally appreciated by the students of the new Medical Faculty who are required to take the extended practical work in histology and physiology. We presume that the original uses for which the School of Science was erected will now be carried into practical effects. Science is booming in University circles just now, judging from the excitement at Victoria over Mineralogy *versus* Prof. Haanel.

Infectious Diseases Hospital for Toronto.

We congratulate the Local Board on its endeavours to get the necessary facilities for effectively dealing with infectious diseases carried into practical effect. We trust that a strong committee will be associated with the Board in order that the working out of the idea may be made as perfect as possible. If in addition to this the notification of disease and inspection of suspected houses is thoroughly carried out the control of this class of diseases might be considered fairly complete.

HEATING AND VENTILATION.

The Smead System of Warming, Ventilation and Dry Closets.

The Smead system is the application of scientific principles to the warming and ventilation of buildings.

The heating is accomplished by causing the air from outdoors to pass over air warmers placed in the basement and thence by means of brick flues into the rooms to be warmed.

These air heaters are of large capacity, having from 250 to 300 square feet of radiating surface each, according to size. The amount of air turned on to each one of these air warmers is that which comes through a window of from 8 to 10 square feet in area.

The heating surface of the apparatus being very large and the amount of air let in upon it being correspondingly great, the air is simply *warmed*, not heated *hot*. By means of a device used only in the application of this system, the air as it comes

into the room can be tempered to any degree desired by the simple turning of the crank.

When the pure, warm air has reached the room, what happens then? If no means had been provided for the escape of air already in the room, neither the heating nor the ventilation would be at all satisfactory. It would be like trying to pour more water into a bottle already full of water. But with the Smead system, ventilation has been provided for in the construction of the building.

The space under the floor has been made into large ducts leading into a chamber in the basement called the "foul air gathering room." Openings into these large ducts are made through iron gratings placed in the baseboard under the different windows.

Now, it can readily be seen how the heating and ventilation can take place. The pure, warm air comes in at the register and being light, at once rises to the top of the room, gradually pressing the colder and vitiated air out through the gratings in the baseboard at the bottom of the room. Really the warm air is running in at the top of the room and the cold air is running out at the bottom.

*In answer to some enquiries due to the mention made of the system in the report of the meeting of Executive Health Officers in our last number we insert the above.