

THE POLLUTION OF WATERWAYS.

A couple of weeks ago Dr. McLaughlin, speaking before the joint Commission on Waterways, said that to compel cities to treat sewage in such a manner as to sterilize would bankrupt these cities. He further said that the feeling against dumping sewage into the lakes was largely sentimental.

We cannot agree with these views. It is well known that contamination can be carried many miles by the currents in the lakes and rivers. One city may in this way pollute the water supply for another city and cause a great deal of sickness. At the American Public Health Association, Dr. M. P. Ravenel, who has charge of Wisconsin State Hygienic Laboratory, stated that the waters of Lake Michigan are more or less polluted for a disease of seven miles from the shore.

It is to be hoped that the views expressed by Dr. McLaughlin of the Bureau of Health of the United States will gain no foothold in this country. There is a very great danger in pouring raw sewage into the lakes.

HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA.

Thirty years ago the hospital conditions in this country were not such as one could boast of. In very few of the small towns and cities were there any places where the sick or injured could be taken for proper nursing and treatment; while in the large cities, the hospitals were small, badly arranged and poorly equipped. Steadily, and, one might say, rapidly, this state of affairs has given place to one that appeals to the imagination of even the careless and thoughtless.

All over the land in the small cities and towns there have sprung up modern and well-arranged institutions for the care of the sick. The wealthy have given of their means and, in some instances, the municipalities have voted liberal sums. This is especially true of the western cities, where many of the hospitals are municipal in character, and have been built by money voted by the people.

The hospital work in Canada has become one of its most important fields of public enterprise and progress. It has become a great utility—that of restoring people to health, and, where such cannot be done, alleviating their suffering. There are hospitals in Canada that cost all the way from a few thousand dollars to three millions. These institutions are in many instances fireproof structures and the tendency is going this way steadily.

Then, again, there is a study given to the management of hospitals. The feeding, the furniture, the sanitation, the nursing, are all