

THE MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

(Abstract of report made for the CANADA HEALTH JOURNAL.)

At the regular quarterly meeting of this Board, held at their rooms, at Lansing, on July 13, Dr. Lyster called the attention of the Board to Syphilis, a disease which causes much sickness and many deaths in this State. He was requested to prepare a paper on the subject.

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The secretary presented a communication from F. G. Russell, city attorney of Detroit, suggesting that the state board address a letter to the mayor and aldermen of that city, recommending organization of a board of health, and the appointment of a health officer.

SICKNESS AND PAUPERISM. — A communication was presented from Hon. H. W. Lord, Secretary of the State Board of Corrections and Charities, relative to pauperism as result of sickness. After some discussion relative to the amount of pauperism caused by sickness, a committee was appointed to investigate the subject.

The remainder of the forenoon session was principally occupied with perfecting details in reference to the examinations of candidates for certificates of competency as to qualifications to act as health officers in Michigan—a new feature of the board.

A paper on "Unsanitary Conditions in our Public Schools," by G. E. Corbin, M. D., of St. Johns, was read, consisting of details of overcrowding, bad ventilation, and the sickness resulting therefrom, which came under his personal observation. Two valuable papers on "Ozone," and "Periodic Fevers," were presented.

Dr. Kedzie said the adulteration

of sugar with glucose was increasing rapidly, and was being done skilfully. That adulteration with pure glucose did not endanger health but the sugar was not so sweet. The manufactured glucose, however, was unhealthful to take into the stomach, because of poisonous substances which were always associated with it. Dr. Lyster said a prominent candy dealer had informed him that all candies, excepting rock-candies, were composed in part of glucose. Dr. Kedzie said nearly all syrups were made from glucose.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Under this heading, and taking for its text a notice of the meeting of the International Medical Congress of Hygiene, to be commenced on 6th September, at Turin, to which all countries are desired to send delegates, the *Ottawa Citizen* says:

"From this important statement, we can form some idea of the place the science of Hygiene, which guards public health, is taking in some of the most important centres in Europe. No subject can possibly be of greater interest to the State than that which enables it to stay the progress of disease and lessen mortality. In the United States a Bureau of Public Health has been established by the Central Government at Washington, and already much good has been accomplished, in a sanitary point of view. Nearly every State, too, has now its State Board of Health. In our Dominion all such matters are in their infancy It is high time more energetic means were adopted by a central authority if possible. . . . The importance of the subject is so great that ere long it must call forth more energetic action than has so far been adopted.