

I can only touch upon a few of the duties in the short time at my disposal, and here I might just mention that the people are, as a rule, glad there is such a person as a Medical Health Officer, to whom they can go with their complaints regarding unsanitary conditions. The majority of the people are so much interested in sanitary work that they will compel the minority, as far as it lies in their power, to interest themselves also. There is no difference of opinion among the people in regard to the aim of the sanitary scientist—that of promoting the public health. All alike wish to see disease eradicated as far as possible; all alike wish to see the public health at its best; all alike agree that “cleanliness is next to godliness.” If cleanliness does not exist it is because of either ignorance, carelessness, want of funds, or self-interest. In the first case it is the duty of the Health Officer to instruct, and where carelessness and self-interest exist to enforce, and he has the power. It is when funds are required to accomplish what is desired that the Health Officer will be often sorely tried. In some cases, it is true, sanitary work is delayed by the aggrandizement of individuals. Sanitary improvements here would interfere with the accumulation of wealth. One of the most important duties of Health Officers is the inspection of schools. Although the recent amendment to the Health Law, anent the report of contagious diseases to teachers, etc., is a considerable advance in legislation, yet I believe it is still left to the trustees to appoint the Health Officer Inspector of Schools. This matter should not be left in this permissive way, but should be made compulsory. There is no more effective way for the spread of contagious diseases than our public schools. The Health Officer should be required to report to the School Board semi-annually, or annually at least, which report should be included in the one sent to the Municipal Council. There should be printed forms, for the use of schools, containing all the rules which should be enforced. Among these should be one stating the time that should elapse before a child should return to school after having had or been exposed to one of the contagious diseases; at present it is left to the physician in attendance, which occasionally causes a little confusion. A time should be set so that it could be said that all reasonable precaution has been taken to protect the public health.

What should be done with schools should also be done with the factories. Were this matter attended to a difficulty would be gotten over which would relieve the physician in attendance very much. It frequently