

partment, and a clerk who shall keep the records of its rules, acts and proceedings; its accounts and monies received, attend to the wants of citizens who call upon business, and act generally under the direction of the Board and Health Commissioner. It seems probable that there will be sufficient work to fairly occupy the entire time of a clerk.

The office of Health Inspector is also provided for, whose duty it shall be to superintend the work of men and teams engaged in sanitary work, to inspect and report upon streets, alleys, public and private premises, as occasion may require, and in general act under the direction of the Board and Commissioner. The remaining work can be done mainly by the police force in connection with their regular duties; though it will be necessary to make occasional details for special work, and appoint one or two members with special reference to this duty. Under this ordinance, with the data at hand from a thorough sanitary survey of the city, it is believed that a Board of Health can begin at once a quiet, effective work that will place this city in harmony with its surroundings and great natural advantages, among which will be prominent its attractions to the health-seeker, when once the present evils are overcome.

Respectfully,

J. F. HAMILTON, M. D.
A. C. STANDART, M. D.
G. W. FOSTER, M. D.
C. C. GOODWIN.

The ordinance provides for a board of health, to be composed of the mayor as chairman, a health commissioner and three citizens, two of whom shall be physicians. The board shall have a clerk for keeping records of inspections and such other business as shall be deemed necessary. It shall have power to protect the city from contagious diseases, and to establish hospitals and pest houses, and to remove or quarantine all persons afflicted with contagious or infectious diseases. The health commissioner is an ex-officio member of the board. Its jurisdiction shall extend for five miles when a patient cannot be removed. It shall have power to engage all police assistance necessary to enforce said provision. In case of an epidemic, proclamation shall be made in at least two daily papers.

To expose infectious persons or to screen them from the officers of the law is punishable by fine.

The board shall have power to compel the vaccination of any and all persons in the city when occasion shall require it.

Provision is made for the examination and vaccination of school children. When an infectious person is discovered on any conveyance or train coming to this city, notice of detainment must be sent by wire or otherwise until proper steps can be taken. When the presence of any infectious disease is discovered it shall be the duty of any and all persons making such discovery to report the same at the City Hall. Leaving dead bodies above the ground contrary to the provisions of the proposed ordinance shall be punishable by fine. It shall be the duty of the health inspector to inspect the entire city and engage all the necessary assistance to remove garbage, decaying animal or

vegetable matter to such places as described by ordinance, and for the faithful performance of his duty he shall give bonds in the sum of \$5000.

He shall have power to destroy all property that is infected with disease and call all needed police aid for that purpose, resistance being punishable by fine. He shall also be empowered to suppress all business detrimental to public health. Physicians and midwives shall keep a record of all births and deaths and report monthly to the health committee.

The coroner is also required to report all inquests held by him, and interments shall not be made without a permit from the commissioner. A Chief Inspector of Health shall be appointed by the mayor, and he shall make daily reports to the commission as to how all refuse matter is being removed from the city. He shall give bonds of \$2,000 for the performance of his duty, and shall receive a salary of \$1,500 a year therefor. The latter sections of the ordinance are devoted entirely to "nuisances" and the disposition thereof.

More than an hour was spent in reading the document.

Governor West said the measure was drafted under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce to fill a long-felt want. We have a rate of mortality that is alarming in its nature. The adoption and enforcement of this ordinance will reduce it to a lower standard. All that is desirable in nature as a promoter of health we are by Providence endowed with, yet we know that our graveyards are filled with departed dear ones who would not be there had we, in the past, been provided with proper sanitary regulations. It will entail but little additional expense upon our city, and if it should, health cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. With a climate like ours the enforcement of this ordinance will do more for us than the enforcement of a similar measure in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, where the rate of mortality decreased in two years from thirty-four to fifteen per thousand, while in Memphis, under the adoption of a similar measure, the decrease was even greater.

Dr. Foster, president of the University club and one of the authors of the proposed ordinance, spoke in favor of the adoption of the rules and regulations contained in the measure just read. He said the expense will not necessarily be great. Salaries, chemicals, and disinfectants only would have to be borne by the city. The construction of vaults and cesspools as prescribed in the ordinance must be done at private expense.

Secretary Gillespie, of the Chamber of Commerce was in favor of a thorough sanitary system, and he thought the Council was in duty bound obligated to adopt the ordinance. It would do more he thought to boom and bring people to this city than anything that could be done. He said he had not dared to tell the truth to applicants for information

from other States and Territories when written to about our sanitary condition. To do so would keep people away. This thing should be overcome.

On motion of Mr. Pembroke a vote of thanks was accorded the framers of the ordinance.

Mr. Hall said: If brevity is the soul of wit, I do not think the gentlemen who framed this bill are entitled to a vote of thanks.—(laughter)—as in my opinion the measure is entirely too long and sweeping. While we need protection from nuisances in many instances, as suggested and proposed by this ordinance, I believe there are many things here that we do not need, or rather cannot get without invading the rights of the citizens and meeting resistance thereby. To describe in detail and fix by ordinance the manner in which every person who is a resident of the suburbs of our large garden and farm-like city shall be compelled to construct barnyard vaults and other requirements, on a similar plan to residents who are centrally located, I believe will work a hardship. I am not in sympathy with the article as it now stands. I am in favor of educating ourselves to that standard by degrees. There are many requirements in the measure that should be carefully considered. Cleanliness is next to Godliness, and we are in need of good sanitary regulations, but I think we should proceed carefully. As to Secretary Gillespie's statement that he has not truthfully answered the questions asked of him with reference to our sanitary condition, I do not approve of such action and think the gentleman should be censured. (Laughter.)

A motion to adopt the ordinance was considered unwise and hasty legislation and the measure went to the sanitary committee with the mayor and city physician associated, to come up at the next regular meeting.

BETTER RECONSIDER.

THE telephone company, in our opinion, will do well to reconsider its attempt to exact a higher fee for the use of its lines and instruments in this city. The service is notoriously poor, in many respects, and it would not take much of a concerted movement to induce the public to discard it altogether, particularly if a cheaper messenger service was inaugurated, as it might be. There is a great deal of kicking against the proposed raising of the rate, and we are of the opinion that enough is already charged by the company, even taking into consideration all that is claimed as to increased expenses. The users of the telephone are more affected by the street car company's wires than any one else, and to charge them higher for a poorer service is very much like "piling on the agony."