Council Meetings, and many Bills before Parliament, where their progress has been carefully watched by the Parliamentary Committee, and action taken where considered advisable. Conferences have been attended by delegates from the Council in regard to Superannuation, Registration of Plumbers, Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board, the London Government Bill, etc.

4. It is with regret that the Council have to report the resignation of Dr. H. Manley as one of the Hon. Secretaries; Dr. Mitchell Wilson has been appointed in his stead.

HERBERT MANLEY,

FRANCIS J. ALLAN,

Hon. Secretaries.

August 30th, 1899.

REPORT OF THE EDITOR.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

GENTLEMEN,—

The year which has elapsed since I presented my last report has been so uneventful that I find it difficult to frame a further report of any value. The first volume in the new form, the eleventh of the Journal, is in your hands, and criticism thereof rests with you. I desire here to place on record my sincere thanks to Dr. Allan, our Hon. Secretary, for kindly undertaking my work during the two months that I was in the grip of that untamed foe influenza.

With regard to the future, I would again express my desire for material for publication as independent supplements, for which original work, either in the laboratory, the office, or the field, is most suitable. Under existing arrangements, I feel that sufficient use is not made of the annual reports issued by medical officers of health throughout the country. Barren reviews of such documents I have always held to be unsuited to the aims of the Journal. Comparison and compilation appear to promise more instruction, but up to the present time it has not been possible to undertake such work. From the examinations made from year to year, it appears desirable that an attempt should be made to secure the *universal* use of a table such as that known as "Table III." of the Society, in all reports. It would then be possible to make strict comparison between one district and another, and to group reports of counties, etc. A "Sanitary Gazetteer," containing information as to the geological formation of each district, outlines of the conditions of life, sewerage, water-supply, and other matters

affecting health, would be found exceedingly useful. With the co-operation of the members of the Society, there should be no real difficulty in compiling such work of reference.

Some two or three years ago the subject of federation was mooted, whereby societies having kindred and, in many cases, overlapping interests might be brought into efficient co-ordination. It has occurred to me that it would be to the best interests of our Science were it possible to arrange for one publication to represent several such societies, rather than that each should have its own independent organ. Economy as to expenditure, and increased power of influencing public opinion, might reasonably be expected to follow such amalgamation.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

REGINALD DUDFIELD,

Editor.

19, Blomfield Road,

Maida Vale, W.,

August 30th, 1899.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit annual statement of receipts and expenditure, together with balance-sheet for the year 1898-99.

For the first time for many years the expenditure of the Society has exceeded the income, the balance carried forward this year being £779 9s., against £831 13s. 6d. last year. This is, to some extent, accounted for by the increased cost in the printing and publication of the Journal, and the absence of any cheque on account of the amounts received by the Publisher.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. H. KEMPSTER,

Hon. Treasurer.

Chesterfield,

North Side,

Clapham Common, S.W.

August 15th, 1899.