Bell Weir Lock to the reservoirs. The conduit will pass under two rivers and two railways. The delivery pipes to the reservoirs will be 6 feet 3 inches, and 8 feet 8 inches in diameter. The reservoirs will (subject to the passing of the amending Bill) be $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles long, and vary in width from $\frac{5}{8}$ th mile at the northern end to nearly 1 mile at the southern. The area is stated to be equal to $\frac{3}{8}$ ths that of the City of London. The capacity of the reservoirs were fixed by the Act of 1896 at 2,500,000,000 gallons, and by the amending Bill will be increased to 3,300,000,000 gallons. The embankments vary in height from 21 to 35 feet. From the reservoirs the water will be conducted to the works of the New River, West Middlesex, and Grand Junction Water Companies. The Act of 1896 limits the amount to be taken at Bell Weir Lock at 100,000,000 gallons in any twenty-four hours, which can be taken only from the surplus over a flow of 265,000,000 gallons daily. It is anticipated that the scheme will do something towards preventing the flooding of the Thames Valley.

CALF-LYMPH VACCINATIONS.—The *Lancet* of April 23rd last contained a useful report of Dr. Bond's results in the vaccination of recruits for the Metropolitan Police during 1897. Of 898 men vaccinated, 124 were found to be "protected," the majority of whom were army reserve men who had been re-vaccinated in the service. The "failures" (men in whom a positive result was obtained in a second or third attempt) numbered seventeen, or 2.19 per cent. of the men who were not "protected." Successful results were obtained in 84.3 per cent. of *all* the men operated on. Glycerinated calf-lymph was used in all cases, the age of the lymph—*i.e.*, the interval elapsing between the taking of the lymph from the calf and its use for vaccination—varied from 1 to 59 days. The largest percentage of failures (50 per cent.) occurred with lymph aged from 45 to 55 days, but only 13 men were operated on with this supply. The lymph was obtained from the Association for the Supply of Pure Vaccine Lymph.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—The following have been appointed as members of the Royal Commission on the Disposal and Treatment of Sewage: The Earl of Iddesleigh (Chairman), Sir R. Thorne Thorne, K.C.B., Professors Michael Foster and William Ramsay, Major-General Phipps Carey, Dr. J. B. Russell (M.O.H. Glasgow), Colonel Harding, and Messrs. T. W. Killick and Charles Cotton. The references to the Commission are:—

(1) What method or methods of treating and disposing of sewage (including any liquid from any factory or manufacturing process) may be properly adopted, consistently with due regard for the requirements of existing law, for the protection of public health, and for the economical and efficient

discharge of the duties of local authorities; and if more than one method be so adopted, by what rules, in relation to the nature or volume of the sewage, or of the population to be served, or other varying circumstances or requirements, should the particular method of treatment in disposal to be adopted, be determined; and

(2) To make any recommendations which may be deemed desirable with reference to the treatment and disposal of sewage.

ADULTERATION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.—An influential deputation from some seventy agricultural societies appeared before the president of the Local Government Board on May 3rd last. The points urged were that the colouring of margarine so as to resemble butter, and the mixing of butter with margarine should be prohibited; that a court of reference should be established, and that foreign dairy products should be examined at the port of entry to this country. Mr. Chaplin in his reply practically controverted the arguments of the deputation, and gave no grounds for hoping that anything would be done to carry out their wishes. It seems very doubtful whether the Bill to amend the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts will be brought in this session.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A POINT UNDER THE NOTIFICATION ACT.

To the Editor of PUBLIC HEALTH.

SIR,—When a medical man sends a certificate notifying a case of scarlet fever to the M.O.H., and subsequently changes his opinion as to his diagnosis, is he entitled to any fee?

Yours truly,
L. N.

* * * Yes, but I think the medical practitioner would be ill advised to claim it if the Authority objected.

HENRY JONES.

18th May, 1898.

WATER CLOSET ACCOMMODATION IN FACTORIES.

To the Editor of PUBLIC HEALTH.

SIR,—I felt rather aghast on reading in the May number of our Journal, that on Friday, the 15th of April, the Report of a Council Meeting, held the same day, containing certain recommendations in regard to the conveniences to be attached to workshops and factories, was passed apparently without any adequate discussion.

In Leeds we have many very large works. I will instance only two in which 2,500 and 2,300 hands are employed respectively. According to the rules now laid down by the Society, the one would only require a w.c. for every 140, the other for every 130 hands employed. Surely this seems odd? I am aware, of course, that there is a secondary clause about separate buildings, which might involve us in a nice question as to what constitutes a separate building within the same curtilage. I venture, therefore, to ask you to print this letter in *PUBLIC HEALTH*, in order to afford our Mem-

bers throughout the country an opportunity of considering the propriety of having important questions of this sort referred to the several Branches before we, as a Society, pronounce definitely upon them.

Some years ago the Yorkshire Branch forwarded a resolution to the Council urging the desirability of submitting far-reaching questions of this kind to the Branches as is done by the British Medical Association. If the Society is to speak with authority as representing the medical officers of health of the country—and I for one think such utterances often desirable—some reference of matters of this kind to the Branches seems to be absolutely necessary.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

J. SPOTTISWOODE CAMERON.

Medical Officer of Health's Department,
Municipal Buildings, Leeds,
May 16th, 1898.

PARLIAMENTARY PUBLICATIONS.

To be obtained from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis. Price 3s. 11d.

Annual Summary of Returns of Births and Deaths, 1897. Price 1s. 6d.

Report of Sight Test in the Mercantile Marine. Price 1½d.

Report on Change of Employment or Women and Girls. Price 6d.

Habitual Inebriates Bill. Price 1½d.

Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Registrar-General for England and Wales, 1896. Price 1s. 9d.

APPOINTMENTS.

ALLAN, E. B., M.D. Lond., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed M.O.H. for Daylesford, Victoria, Australia.

BELDING, D. T., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S., appointed M.O.H. to the Mitford and Launditch Rural District Council.

BENSON, P. L., M.D. Irel., D.P.H. Camb., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Buckingham Rural District Council.

BOULTON, ARTHUR, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Lond., appointed M.O.H. to the Woodhall Spa Urban District Council.

BOWIE, J. C., M.B., C. In. Aberd., appointed M.O.H. for the District, including the parishes of Sandsting, Aithsting, Walls, and Foula, and Sandness and Papa Stour, in the County of Shetland.

BURGES, ROBERT, E., M.D., In. Ch., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Hoole Urban District Council.

CRAIG, J. W., M.D. Glasg., M.R.C.S., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Bingley District Council.

CUTHBERT, J., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.K.I.C.P. Irel., appointed H.O. for the Victoria Park District of Perth, Western Australia.

DE GAUCHY, C. W., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Caerleon Urban District Council.

DINGLE, C. V., M.B., B.S. Durh., appointed M.O.H. to the Middlesbrough County Borough.

DICK, ROBERT, M.B. Sydney, appointed M.O.H. for the combined Hunter River Districts of Newcastle, New South Wales.

DURRAN, D., M.B., C.M. Glasg., appointed M.O.H. to the Burgh of Thurso.

FRASER, Dr. D., appointed M.O.H. to the Buckley Urban District Council.

FULTON, GEORGE C. H., M.B. C.M. Glasg., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Eston Urban District Council.

GODFREY, H. P., M.B., Ch. B. Melb., F.R.C.S. Eng., appointed H.O. for Bordock, Western Australia.

HILLMAN, G. B., L.S.A., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Whitwood Urban District Council.

JONES, HUGH, M.B., C. In. Glasg., D.P.H., appointed M.O.H. to the Dolgelly Rural District Council.

MACGREGOR, G. R., M.D., Aberd., re-appointed M.O.H. (Bingley Outer) to the Bingley Urban District Council.

MACKAY, Dr., appointed M.O.H. to the Crook Urban District Council.

MARSH, J. H., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Little Hulton Urban District Council.

MELLISH, J. S., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed M.O.H. to the Wells Port Sanitary Authority, and the Wells-next-on-Sea Urban District Council.

MUDGE, JAMES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Edin., L.S.A., re-appointed M.O.H. to the West Penrith (Cornwall) Rural District Council.

PARKHURST, R., M.B., C. In. Edin., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Long Sutton Urban District Council.

PATTERSON, G. H., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A. Lond., D.P.H. Lond., appointed M.O.H. to the Ulverston Union Combined Districts.

RANSOME, A. S., M.B., B.P., D.P.H. Camb., appointed M.O.H. to the Southgate Urban District Council.

SPRAKELING, R. J., M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Bootle County Borough.

STEPHENSON, WM., M.R.C.S., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Beverley Rural District Council.

STRATTON, C. R., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., Edin., re-appointed M.O.H. to the Wilton Urban District Council.

TURNER, ARTHUR F., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., appointed M.O.H. to the Borough of Tewkesbury.

VLIELAND, C. J., M.D. Durh., M.R.C.S., appointed M.O.H. to the St. Thomas (Exeter) Urban District Council.

WALLIS, P. E., L.R.C.P. Edin., M.R.C.S., re-appointed M.O.H. to the East Grinstead Urban District Council.