

Communications.

To the Editor:

In an article in your June issue entitled "Military Sanitation in the Present War" by Thorndike Saville, C. E., appears the following statement under the heading "Water Purification":

"The British also advocate the use of the self washing filter cone, such as is used at Toronto. Theoretically it is most economical but no results from its use in the army are given and it has not been satisfactory at Toronto."

As the engineers who designed this 60 million Imperial gallon per day water purification plant for the city of Toronto, we have to say that a portion of the plant is now in operation but that no official tests have been made. A 500,000 Imperial gallon per day demonstration plant was built before the larger plant was decided upon and thoroughly tested by the city of Toronto bacteriologists with absolutely satisfactory results in every respect as will be observed from the Report attached covering these official tests.

Under these conditions the statement quoted above in reference to the Toronto plant is without foundation, absolutely unwarranted, as well as being false. Such a sweeping and damaging statement as contained in the article cannot possibly be based on facts. What object the writer had in view can best be left to the imagination.

We are not in a position to make reference to the results obtained from the filters used for war purposes further than to indicate that we con-

tinue to construct same for many of the Allied Powers.

Yours very truly,
JOHN VERMEHR ENGINEERING COMPANY, LTD.,
WILLIAM STORRIE,
Chief Engineer.

To the Editor:

I beg to acknowledge your courtesy in giving me opportunity to reply to the letter of Mr. William Storrie, Chief Engineer of the John verMehr Co., Ltd., in which he takes exception to certain statements appearing in my article "Military Sanitation in the Present War."

The statement to which Mr. Storrie takes exception came to me from what I considered a most authoritative source, although as I remember the matter was only referred to conversationally. As my informant is now absent from the country, I am unable to verify my understanding of the statement. The only assertion from which Mr. Storrie apparently has grounds for dissenting is found in the last few words, that "it has not been satisfactory at Toronto." Authority for this statement was not based on personal knowledge of the conditions, and as Mr. Storrie states that no official tests have been made, undoubted injustice has been done, although in an entirely unintentional manner.

Under these circumstances I am very glad to have my article corrected, and trust that you will find opportunity to publish this letter in an early issue of the JOURNAL.

Yours very truly,

THORNDIKE SAVILLE.

Personal Notes.

Members and subscribers enlisting in the Sanitary Service, or other war divisions, are respectfully requested to inform the Editor, for notice in these columns.

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Professor S. M. Gunn, editor of the JOURNAL, has departed for France to become associate director of the Tuberculosis Commission of the International Health Board. Mr. A. W. Hedrich, for the past year editorial assistant, has been appointed acting editor and acting secretary to the Association.

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Dr. Elmer S. Tenney of Boston, Mass., formerly of the Army Medical Corps, has accepted

the position of health commissioner to the state of Nebraska.

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Mr. W. Thurber Fales has been appointed health officer of Glen Ridge, N. J.

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Mr. Franz Schneider, Jr., has resigned as sanitarian of the Department of Surveys and Exhibits, Russell Sage Foundation, to become associate health editor of *The Delineator*.

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Dr. William L. Holt has been appointed instructor in hygiene and bacteriology in the Medical School of Western Reserve University.