

NOT A WORD ON IRON CANS.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS NO MORE ADVICE TO OFFER.

The Public Rejoices Over a Plain Exposition of the Facts Regarding Garbage Receptacles—The Sanitary Law Will Be Rigidly Enforced, but This Does Not Mean That a Galvanized Iron Can Is a Necessity—A Visitor to the Mayor Gets a Special Permit.

The public, which has been led to believe that every householder would be compelled not only to supply himself with a garbage receptacle, whether he had garbage or not, but would be forced into buying one of certain specific dimensions made of a certain quality of galvanized iron and supplied with a certain number of handles—if not, indeed, of a certain foreign manufacture—the public, which had thus been deceived by printed circular and published statement of the Board of Health, rejoiced exceedingly yesterday when the real facts were published in THE TIMES. It was clearly shown that any water-tight and air-tight receptacle could be used for garbage, whether it was made of galvanized iron or not, whether it had two handles or twenty, whether it was made in Detroit or Irkutsk, and whether it was bought yesterday or years ago. A suitable receptacle is all that the law contemplates.

This does not mean that there is to be any laxity in the enforcement of the garbage law by any means, say the officials. Where there is garbage at any house a receptacle must be provided for it. But all that is required is that it be a suitable receptacle and not one of particular size, material and make. This in no way interferes with the efficiency of the garbage service, and where there is no garbage there need be no receptacle.

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Scores of people who visited the Health office yesterday in response to the board's notices, were no longer told that the board had "adopted the Detroit Garbage company's garbage can, but a different kind of can may be used if approved by the Board of Health." Instead the health officials told inquiring citizens that they had no instructions to give regarding the kind of garbage receptacles to be used. The Detroit company's can, fitted on an imitation section of fence and placed in a prominent position, with advertisements on it containing the board's resolution adopting it, still held a prominent position in the Board of Health office, along with three other galvanized iron cans, but they were no longer pointed out to inquirers. The attempt to mislead the public into the wholesale purchase of a certain company's cans or the purchase of any particular style of a can had completely failed. Just who was responsible for it nobody seems to know.

A citizen visited the Mayor's office yesterday carrying an iron can to which he said the sanitary officers had objected prior to the agitation of the receptacle question by THE TIMES. Mayor Cowherd looked the can over, said it would answer the purpose required

W. S. COWHERD, Mayor.

Mayor Cowherd said yesterday: "I am glad THE TIMES called my attention to the garbage receptacle matter. Its attitude is a perfectly proper one and I would have taken the action I did sooner had I been made acquainted with the circumstances."

In answer to numerous inquirers who wished to be absolutely certain on the subject of receptacles, prior to disobeying the board's mandates, City Counselor Rozzelle said yesterday:

"THE TIMES quoted me correctly. All the administration requires is the enforcement of the purpose of the law, and that is the removal of the garbage. If the receptacles for the garbage, no matter their material, are water-tight, with close-fitting lids, they will answer the purpose."