

A NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH.—The American Public Health Association will meet in New York in November, and will have before it for discussion a resolution to the effect that a National Sanitary Bureau should be established in connection with the Interior Department. It is alleged, on one side, that local Boards of Health are too much restricted in their authority to be effective in dealing with such contagious diseases as yellow fever, cholera and small-pox; and on the other side, that before such radical legislation is attempted, data and opinions bearing upon the subject of public hygiene and upon the State and national legislation primarily desirable and practicable should first be collected. The fear is expressed that if a National Sanitary Bureau were established, without such careful inquiry having first been made, it would drift into politics, and appointments be made under it for purely political considerations. The Medical Times suggests that the surgeon general of the army, aided by his medical officers, could do well the preliminary work required.