

and annual inspection of public sewerage and water systems, he discharging the duties at present placed upon the Provincial Board of Health, and for which purpose they meet quarterly. Given a minister with his medical inspector, sanitary engineer, sanitary inspector, bacteriologist and chemist, all matters could be dealt with as they came along, with the minimum amount of delay. With the several reports of the experts engaged in the department, greater expedition and more correct decisions would be arrived at than under the existing system, and in this abolishing of the Provincial Board of Health, it may be stated incidentally, half the salary of a minister of health would be provided for.

The future, as regards public health, will make greater demands upon the provincial authorities than have been made in the past; for, with the increase of population in our cities and towns, greater oversight will have to be exercised over not only the inception of public systems of sewage and water supplies, but it will require, on the part of the province, an annual inspection whereby contamination of the latter by the former will be checked and prevented.

The problem of sewage disposal in rural districts is as important as that of urban municipalities, for enteric fever is as rife in the former as in crowded cities, if not more so. It is to the provincial authorities that the study of the disposal of manufacturing wastes and domestic sewage must be relegated; and this will involve the expenditure annually of money for the study of this important question, for experiments must be carried on constantly, day by day, from year to year; present methods must be studied and new ones experimented with, the problem being an ever-changing one. But the work of public health does not end here. Laboratory tests of anti-diphtheritic and other serums must be made. The questions of sanatoria for consumptives, and the allocation of the work to be done by charity, the municipality, the state and private institutions, with the object of preventing overlapping, duplication, etc., require careful consideration.

The providing of preventive treatment for those neuroses which are now recognized as the prelude to chronic mental diseases, is a large and important question, as thereby the increase in chronic cases may be largely prevented, and much suffering and expense be saved both to the individual and to the state.

The study of cancer, too, is one that might well be taken up by a department of health.

The factory inspection of the province would be placed in a much better position, for a large portion of its work relates to the adoption and enforcement of sanitary laws, with which the present inspectors have but a passing knowledge. Given a union with the medical inspector and sanitary inspector of a department of health,