

to awaken a general public interest in them, as in England; where the secular newspapers give regular reports of vital statistics, and which are generally read and considered.

The collection and publication of health statistics is a most important work of health organization, too.

A faithful register of births, marriages, deaths, and sickness is now wished for and being provided for in all enlightened and advanced countries. Why will Canada delay?

PUBLIC HEALTH IN ONTARIO.

At the late meeting of the Ontario Medical Council, July, 1880, in Toronto, Dr. Grant offered the following resolutions:

1. That the members of this Council are of opinion that there is no subject of greater importance to the well-being and prosperity of the Dominion than that of public hygiene.

2. That in order to keep pace with the scientific progress of the age, and give greater evidence of an earnest desire to promote sanitary measures, this Council is of opinion that a Central Bureau of Health should be established at the Capital, under the control of the Federal Government.

3. That as a Central Bureau of Health meets with the unanimous voice of our profession in Canada, it deserves the well-timed consideration of the Federal Government.

4. It having recently transpired that a grand Congress of Hygiene will assemble in September next at Turin, and an invitation having been extended to all Governments to send a representative, that Sir Charles Tupper, at present in England, be requested, on the part of our profession, to attend that meeting, and thus give evidence of our desire to promote the advocacy of the best possible means to lessen mortality and guard public health.

The mover considered that the subject of public health was one of great interest to the profession and the public throughout the Dominion, and he had prepared resolutions with a view of impressing upon the Government the importance of adopting some legislation in reference to it.

Dr. Brouse said the subject had engaged the attention of other Governments, as France, Germany, England and the United States. In the latter country, at a recent meeting, the Federal Government was called upon to legislate on this subject. A Bureau of Sanitary Science had been established at Washington, and quite a sum of money (\$500,000) had been devoted to the purpose of carrying out its object. Medical men were not simply satisfied with having a Bureau, but they demanded that there should be a Department of Health, as in Germany, England and other countries. In England since 1844 no less than 48 public health Bills has been passed in Parliament, and it was shown by the returns through the establishment of hygienic laws the death rate in London alone had been reduced from 42 to 21. He thought the Ontario Government also should take steps to legislate on this question. It was the great question of the age, and its importance would be urged with greater force upon the attention of legislative bodies in the future.

The Chairman concurred in the views expressed, and the resolutions were carried unanimously.

Later in the session, Dr. Clark proposed the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Council, while it is very desirable that a Central Bureau of Health for this Dominion should be established at Ottawa, the Provincial Government of Ontario should make some provision at an early day for promoting the public health in this Province by providing for some central organized body, such as the Government may deem best, with functions similar to the Imperial Boards of Health of most European countries, and the State Boards of Health of most of the United States, chiefly for the purpose of educating the people in health matters, obtaining information in reference to the public health, and for perfecting, as far as possible, the returns of vital statistics." Carried unanimously.