

tion of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec at the last census amounted to 3,831,845, while the total number of deaths in 1903 was 60,540, of which 5,666 were from consumption. It is not to be supposed, however, that these were all the deaths that took place from tuberculosis, as there is no doubt that in many cases where the disease attacked the brain or bowels or other organs, the deaths were tabulated under different heads. That this statement is correct is borne out by the returns of the Board of Health of city of St. John, which are known to be fairly correct, and where consumption is not more prevalent than in other cities of its size. In fact it may be truthfully stated that this disease is not as prevalent in St. John as it was 15 or 20 years ago, and the better appreciation and practice of the sanitary rules applicable to this disease are having their effect here as elsewhere. *The accompanying table gives the total number of deaths in this city during the last 10 years and also the deaths from tuberculosis in its various forms.

By this table it will be seen that the deaths from tuberculosis in St. John vary from 1 in 8 to 1 in 5 1/2, and not 1 in 9.35 as the figures given above for Ontario and Quebec would show. These figures emphasize what

a dreadful scourge this disease really is, for it is not an epidemic showing only occasional ravages, but day after day, and year after year, the remorseless holocaust goes on, and each year the world yields up 1,095,000, each minute two of its people as a sacrifice to this plague.

During the last 20 or 30 years a great decrease has taken place in the mortality from consumption, especially in those countries which have adopted special hospitals or sanatoria for its treatment, and nowhere is this the case to the same extent as in England. Prof. Koch has testified that "the only country that possesses a considerable number of special hospitals for tubercular patients is England, and there can be no doubt that the diminution of tuberculosis in England which is much greater than in any other country, is very largely to be attributed to this circumstance." I understand that last year there were more deaths in England among women from cancer than from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis of the lungs is a chronic disease caused by the presence of the tubercle bacillus. These bacilli can be found by the million in the affected organ, are of a low scale of vegetable life, destroy the lung tissue by ulcerative process

Year	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Total no. of deaths	693	737	819	679	756	776	736	706	771	739
Tuberculosis of lungs	127	113	125	85	87	92	88	72	75	89
" meninges	5	20	8	15	8	13	7	3	13	9
" peritoneum	1	1	2	2	4	1	3	2
" other organs	1	3	2	...	6	4	...	5	...	7
" general	1	...	6	8	5	7	9	10
Total tuberculosis	133	137	138	102	111	118	103	89	65	115