

ties all over Canada, as well as to medical health officers in the large cities and to professors in the universities having to do with public health matters. As the question is to come up for discussion in the House of Commons again this session, especially as there are several members interested in it other than those belonging to the medical profession, medical societies and the medical press and all others should early press the matter on the attention of members of the House. Recent events at Ottawa suggest the possibility of the reorganization of more than one department of the government in the immediate future; and the opportunity thus presented to the medical profession of Canada should be seized eagerly and prosecuted with vigor and "sticktoitiveness." It may be considered wise on the part of the Special Committee on Public Health to again press the matter upon the Prime Minister and his colleagues, and especially so now that the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis will join hands with the Canadian Medical Association in urging the Government to consolidate the various branches of the medical service, when the former meets in Ottawa next June. If so, we can only urge upon the attention of the profession, and particularly upon those directly engaged in public health matters, the desirability of their presence and support at that meeting.

The Report of the Ontario Commission on Insanity is before us. It shows that the Commission went carefully and very fully into the methods employed in caring for and treating the insane in different university centres in Great Britain and Europe. Particular attention was given to the investigation of the organization and methods and equipment of psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric clinics, and the most important of the Commission's recommendations is set forth in these words: The psychiatric hospital being the ideal institution for the treatment of all acute forms of insanity, we would recommend the establishment, as necessity arises, of such hospitals at university centres. The other recommendations are: The enlargement of the present staffs of physicians and nurses; the isolation of the tuberculous; the proper care and treatment of insane criminals. Regarding the first of these, we would express the hope that the appointments of physicians be made purely on merit and fitness and not on any political pull, and that the advice of the heads of the institutions be followed rather than that of the ward patronage committee. The