

"Are they merited", these cases of syphilis which wet nurses receive from their nurslings and which are later transmitted to their own children, husbands or other nurslings?

"Are they merited", these cases of congenital syphilis in infinite number, which children inherited before they enter the world, and which, in the majority of cases, result in their death?

Finally, "are they merited", all those cases of syphilis of non-venereal origin, such as those the physicians, the medical students and maternity nurses contract in the practice of their profession, and those cases of syphilis which are the result of a simple accidental contact?" — (*Fournier*).

The war, Gentlemen, had the redeeming feature of revealing to our notice, the terrible extent of Venereal Disease. Our eyes were opened, the veil of false modesty which was misleading us into a sense of false security and silencing our mouths, was ripped asunder.

One of the most serious problems that the military authorities had to solve was the great prevalence of Venereal Disease, as shown by the medical examination amongst recruits.

An enemy was in our midst and it was necessary to fight it quickly and to show no mercy. Immediately a strong organization sprang up to treat the venereal infected and thus to prevent imminent contagion, the greatest cause of incapacity of an army on active service: a dispensary for the treatment of venereal disease was attached to each hospital and a thorough program of sane amusements and sexual education, comprising conferences, exhibitions and instructive films, etc., was provided in each camp. It can therefore be stated confidently that in reducing in a large measure the extent of Venereal Disease amongst our soldiers, the military authorities have not only obtained a purely material and medical success, but also, have gained a moral, social and educational victory. At the end of the war, the military organizations, being rapidly dismembered by demobilization, desired to confer the care of their venereal patients to civilian organizations, similar to their own. They looked for these in vain. The Federal Government, being informed of their predicament and also being desirous of securing accurate data on the venereal subject, called a meeting of all hygiene, social and humanitarian workers throughout the whole of Canada. This meeting was held in Ottawa on May the 29th, 1919.

This Congress marked an epoch in the history of Antivenereal Warfare in Canada. At this Congress the urgent necessity for the