

mortality is 89 per 1,000; Bristol, 95 per 1,000; Edinburgh, 100 per 1,000; Glasgow, 111 per 1,000; Manchester, 111 per 1,000; Nottingham, 116 per 1,000; Liverpool, 118 per 1,000; Leeds, 129 per 1,000. I have here the figures for six cities in Canada—two in the province of Quebec, two in Ontario and two in Western Canada. The lowest rate of infant mortality per thousand is found in Sherbrooke, Quebec, 101; then comes Toronto, 109; Winnipeg, 126; Vancouver, 144; Quebec, 203; Montreal, 207; Ottawa, 224.

Notwithstanding the advances in sanitation which we think we have made in our Canadian cities, our infant mortality, as is observable from these figures, exceeds by 100 per cent the infant mortality of the larger cities in Great Britain. This shows the necessity of the Government at once taking steps to investigate this important question, and to solve the problem of protecting the lives of the people of Canada, which, one may safely say, are the greatest asset we have.

During the late war we discovered our weaknesses in this direction, and the indifference under which we have laboured for so many years past. Let me instance the case of tuberculosis. I cannot give honourable gentlemen the figures at the present moment; but a very large percentage of the rejections under the Military Service Act were due to that disease. The department which I represent is charged with looking after a greater number of tuberculosis cases than are looked after in official institutions in the seven or eight millions of the civilian population of Canada. Why is that?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: That perhaps means that a number of tuberculosis cases throughout the country are not reported at all.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes, that is what it means. It means that, owing to the medical examinations which men in military service have had to undergo, we have discovered the number of tuberculosis cases with which we are charged to-day, leaving the rest of the community unexamined, so to speak, as to whether or not they are practically honeycombed with tuberculosis. The opinion of many of the medical officers of the Militia Department is that a very large percentage of the people of Canada are to-day suffering from tuberculosis. Yet we are not taking the necessary steps to prevent the ravages which are daily taking place among our people owing to that insidious disease.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED.

Another disease which is causing very great ravages in the Dominion of Canada is venereal disease. The province of Ontario a short time ago found it necessary, or considered it desirable in the public interest, to appoint a commission to examine into this very serious problem. It was ascertained that the spread of this disease throughout the whole of Canada is becoming very alarming; and steps are being taken not only by the Government of Ontario, but by this Government, to stop as far as possible the ravages of that disease. To those of us who are acquainted with the very large percentage of such cases, which come under our observation from time to time, it cannot be said that the Government of Canada is absolved from giving the most serious attention to this very serious and critical problem.

There probably is nothing like a war to discover the steps that should be taken for the protection of public health. For instance, the necessity of adopting proper sanitary conditions in a community has been fully disclosed by the war. The very important fact was pointed out by the Director General of the Army Medical Service of Great Britain, that in the late war, among the British forces on the western front, there would have been, under conditions that obtained previous to the war, approximately 150,000 cases of typhoid fever from the opening of the war to a certain period in 1916, when the war had continued for about two years. But owing to the measures which had been taken the number of typhoid fever cases was reduced to 1,500. It is also pointed out that in the South African war of the British forces 14,653 men died of disease, whereas only 7,792 were killed or died of wounds; that is, 100 per cent more died from disease than from wounds. This reveals the necessity of the Government taking proper measures and establishing the requisite machinery for the protection of public health.

It might be pointed out, and it has doubtless come under the observation of honourable gentlemen, that in the plague of Spanish influenza which swept over not only Canada and America, but the whole world, there was a lack of that co-ordination which is so necessary for stemming such a tide. It has been estimated that there died of that disease more persons than were killed in the war. It is estimated that in India alone over 6,000,000 people died of Spanish influenza. And we recall quite distinctly that in the city of Ottawa, where the disease spread very rapidly, but probably with not such serious results as in