THE CANADA LANCET.

At the time of making the report three actions were threatened against members. The feeling is that these actions will fall to the ground. For this association we would say: Felix faustum que sit.

FOR CLEAN, PURE MILK.

The Milk Commission of the Canadian Medical Association has issued a lengthy and a strong statement on the matter of pasteurizing milk. In the statement many weighty opinions are quoted in favor of this method of treating the milk. There is one opinion the other way, and in favor of a municipal control and supply of milk.

This latter is evidently impossible in this country. There are no cities in Canada that would care to go into the dairy business, which would mean large farms, barns, herds of cows, and much help. Even with all this there would be some risk of contamination, and the need for pasteurization could not wholly be got rid of. For smaller places than Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, etc., there would be no chance of the municipal farm and dairy.

There is no doubt of the fact that a very considerable amount of disease is carried my the milk supply of the country. It is not a question that concerns Toronto, but every town or city in the Dominion, which has to purchase milk for consumption. Almost any germ may be carried in milk, but there is no doubt of the fact that those of tuberculosis, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, and diphtheria can be so transported.

The dangers are that the cows may be unhealthy, the dairy hands dirty, or suffering from some infecting disease, the utensils may be carelessly looked after, or the water used on the dairy may be polluted. All of these conditions have been frequently found to exist in instances of milk-borne epidemics. We would prefer a certified milk to that which has been pasteurized; but we prefer pasteurizing to the present state of affairs in all our large cities.

A special effort is being made by the various committees of the Canadian Medical Association to secure a record meeting for the year 1910. Arrangements are now well under way for an excellent programme. There will be several interesting symposia.