

diseases of the various organs that are affected by improper food and the abuse of spirituous liquour. With regard to improper food as far as quality is concerned, national sanitation has already taken hold of matters connected with the adulteration of food and drugs, and the inspection of meat for export, although not yet that of meat for our own home use.

With regard to the liquor traffic. Of all temperance legislation, the most temperate and therefore—to my mind—the most likely to gain the desired end, is that known as the Gothenburg system. The elimination of private profit upon the sale of spirits, and the commission upon the sale of non-intoxicants, are of course the essential points of this most excellent system, with the introduction and extension of which in England the name of His Excellency our Governor General is so closely connected.

I cannot pass from the subject of national sanitation without referring—still in my individual capacity, not in my official one—to the resolutions that have been passed annually since 1902 by this Association, urging upon the national Government the collecting together of national matters medical and sanitary—now scattered amongst the various departments—into a Department of Public Health under one of the existing Ministers. In connection with such a department there should, in my judgment, be a national bacteriological laboratory, with branches for the supply of vaccine and of the various sera and anti-toxins. These should be prepared and tested by men on salary and without any personal interest in their sale. And they should be issued bearing the Government stamp as a guarantee of purity and reliability and marked with a date limit of efficiency. The general practitioner throughout the country would then know just what he is using, and both he and his patient would be much better protected than they are at present. Moreover, in such a national laboratory there might well be bacteriologists and chemists engaged in original research. This country should rise above the position of hanging on to the skirts of other nations and waiting to hear from them. It is fully time that in such a national laboratory Canada also should have her investigators taking their part in forwarding the advances of science. In such a national department of Public Health there would be no interference with Provincial Rights, only a domestic re-arrangement for greater efficiency. On the contrary, one of my dreams is the creation of a national board or council of Public Health composed of the occupier of the federal office I now hold, and of a representative from each of the Provincial Boards of Health, to meet at the capital from time to time to advise the National Government in public health questions affecting the country at large. Advice and recommendations from a