

In the report proper of this Department there will be found full records of the Quarantine Service, and the Lazaretto, at Tracadie, N.B. The quarantine is formed of nine stations on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, under the charge of as many members of our profession. The central station is at Grosse Isle, where there now is the most advanced means of disinfecting quarantined cargoes and crews, and a very thoroughly equipped hospital. Since the adoption of the new regulations, which came in force the year of this report, the service of Canada is superior to that of the United States, their weak point being that each State maintains its own quarantine, and there is no concerted action. The report of Doctor Montizambert is well worth reading. He describes very fully the season's work and the method of carrying out the new regulations. In addition he gives an account of several of the American stations which he visited, also a report of the proceedings of the American Public Health Association, which he attended as the representative of the Canadian Government. The reports from the subordinate stations are short, and of little importance. Scarlet fever and measles were the common causes from which vessels were detained. One only was quarantined, at Sydney, C.B., with smallpox, and the disease fortunately did not spread beyond three members of the crew. This vessel sailed from Brazil.

The report of Doctor Smith, the Medical Superintendent of the Lazaretto, shows that there are seventeen cases of leprosy in his hospital; these, with two outside, are all that are known. Three new cases appeared during the year. A cure is reported of two cases; these he attributes "to the excellent hygienic influence of the institution before the disease had made any serious inroads on vigorous constitutions."

The report of the Department of Inland Revenue usually furnishes interesting matter in relation to the adulteration of food, drugs, etc. This year, however, the milk analysis is the only article worthy of notice. The report of Mr. McFarlane, the Chief Analyst, should be read by everyone following this subject. The whole question, however, appears to be in a very elementary stage. The Government has not yet decided upon a standard, and the irregular

method of collecting the samples tends to make the result very untrustworthy. The report of Doctor Valade, the analyst from this district, is voluminous, and we derive some satisfaction when we learn that only about four per cent. of samples were adulterated, while in other cities fully one-third failed to stand the test. One important point at the present time when the question of tuberculosis is becoming prominent, is that in all the herds of cattle infected none were noticed to be affected with this disease.

Since the report, the Department has issued a bulletin detailing an analysis of "Domestic Waters," seventy-five samples of well and river water, were tested. It is useless to attempt to outline the various tables, which are extremely lengthy.

In the report to the House of Commons of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization, will be found the explanation of the set of questions on tuberculosis, which we all have recently received. During its labours of last session the question of the prevalence of tuberculous among cattle and its relation to man was brought forward by the evidence of our fellow-member, Doctor Playter. No conclusion could be arrived at, as the session was drawing to a close, and a sub-committee was appointed to continue the inquiry during recess, hence the circular that has been distributed throughout the Dominion.

This Standing Committee also discussed the introduction of Syphilis into the country by means of immigration. Doctors Wilson, Ferguson and Sproule made long statements, and referred to instances they had met with. The committee advised that steps should be taken to avoid the serious danger.

Of our Provincial reports, that of the Board of Health is the most valuable, and a complete set should be in the possession of every practitioner in Ontario. In many ways it is open to criticism, but it furnishes an excellent mirror of the public health of our Province. The Secretary's articles on water-supplies, the outbreak of anthrax at Guelph, on methods of destruction of city garbage—all are very complete. The appendix contains the report of 240 Boards of Health, representing nearly one-half of all the municipalities in the Province.