

disease were not necessarily incapacitated; they could escape recognition for weeks or months, and might remain untreated. He emphasized the point that the treatment ought to be conducted by scientific and skilled methods, and therefore by qualified persons.

Mr. E. B. Turner (Chairman of Representative Meetings of the British Medical Associations) said that the Association had passed strong resolutions on the subject. It felt that it was extremely important, first, that advertisements of the form of quackery in question should be stopped. A person affected with venereal disease was not only dangerous to himself and to the community, but also in many cases to posterity. The medical profession, in seeking to bring about efficient means of treating these diseases in the early stages, was working for the good of the community. He mentioned that point because he had had it thrown in his teeth that the profession was working for its own interests.

Sir Malcolm Morris expressed the hope that Lord Rhondda would introduce a bill to suppress the quack treatment of venereal diseases.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham and Mr. J. W. Willis Bund also spoke.

Lord Rhondda, in reply, said his department fully realized the burning nature of the question of treating venereal diseases, and he had been impressed with the necessity of dealing with it as a war measure. It affected not only the health of the population to-day but the health of future generations. Of all the matters that came before the Local Government Board he could sincerely say that he looked upon the treatment of these diseases as one of the most important, and he would go further and say that it was the most urgent question with which his department had to deal. He was not in a position to commit himself to anything definite, but he thought he could give the assurance that legislation would be procured at a very early date. In reply to a vote of thanks, he added that as far as he was concerned the deputation might dismiss from their minds any suggestion there might be that the medical profession were actuated by selfish motives in their hostility to quack methods.

—*British Medical Journal*.

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH IN TORONTO.

The following table makes comparison of the deaths from fifteen chief causes in January, 1917 and 1916. In spite of the favorable comparison with last year, the figures for pneumonia and other respiratory diseases are abnormally high.