

common than any (except possibly measles), calls for more careful measures.

Think of the effect of syphilis: it affects about eight per cent. of the total population; is transmissible to the offspring and causes death in eighty per cent. of those infected; is the cause of ten to thirty-five per cent. of all insanity; of most mentally defective children; of locomotor ataxia; of paresis; of apoplectic and paralytic strokes in early life; of nearly half the abortions and miscarriages; of a large proportion of diseases of the heart, blood vessels and other vital organs. Syphilis decreases the length of life about a third and greatly decreases one's earning capacity during the remainder.

And what is very generally considered of trifling importance, "not much worse than a cold," gonorrhoea, while not so virulent, is still a deadly foe to the Canadian people, and is more common than syphilis. Gonorrhoea is the cause of more than ten per cent. of all blindness; of eighty per cent. of congenital blindness; of many surgical operations on the female generative organs; of many chronic diseases of the joints, bladder and generative organs, and this disease greatly decreases one's earning capacity.

These surely are enemies worth fighting—not in my time or in yours, not for generations to come will they be extirpated; but something, much, can be done by us in our generation.

We are not perhaps to expect that those who know themselves to be infected will do much for others—God knows they have a heavy enough burden of their own to bear—but I feel that I may call upon those who know themselves to be clean to help those less fortunate, and to assist those who are clean to remain clean.

The appalling versatility, the unearthly cunning of these diseases are such that thousands and tens of thousands have their seed within their bodies without knowing it, and I am well justified in saying that no man can be sure that today he is so clean and