

less to any other cities or towns which may take their supply from below.

Q. And harmless to itself also?—A. Of course, to itself, the selfish reason would apply first. As I have said, I think our own experience has been that the danger is very largely to one's own town first, and secondly to those below, and so for purely selfish reasons we should treat our sewage and thus not injure ourselves, and secondly, not to injure others.

There is a great deal more evidence which I need not inflict upon the House, but I may say that at one of the sittings of this Committee it was suggested owing to the great importance of this question and the fact that it had been widely discussed all over the Dominion, that a conference should be called of representatives of all the provinces to meet in Ottawa to discuss the question, and I received instruction from the committee to request the Government to invite such a conference. The conference was convened in the Tower room here on October 3, 1913, by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. Among those present were the Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries; Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture; myself, as Chairman of the House of Commons Committee on the subject; Mr. Warnock, M.P., and Mr. Baker, M.P. The province of Manitoba was represented by Hon. Mr. Howden, the Attorney General of the province; Prince Edward Island by Hon. Mr. Matheson, Premier of Prince Edward Island; British Columbia by Hon. William R. Ross, Minister of Lands; the province of Quebec by Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, president of the Provincial Board of Health; Mr. R. S. Lea, member of the Provincial Board of Health; and Dr. E. Elzear Pelletier, secretary of the Provincial Board of Health. The province of Saskatchewan was represented by Mr. P. Aird Murray, C.E., and Dr. Maurice M. Seymour, Commissioner of Public Health for the province of Saskatchewan; New Brunswick by Hon. Mr. Flemming, Premier of New Brunswick; the International Joint Commission by Mr. C. A. Magrath and Mr. H. A. Powell, K.C.; the Conservation Commission by James White, Secretary and deputy minister and Dr. C. A. Hodgetts.

The subject was thoroughly discussed at the conference, and the consensus of opinion was that some federal legislation should be passed to control the disposal of the sewage of the Dominion of Canada. Mr. White in his evidence made this statement:

I have all that information and I could have it here at a later date. I would like to say [Mr. Bradbury.]

that the Conservation Commission is entirely in accord with Mr. Bradbury in his effort to prevent the pollution of streams.

That is apparently the opinion of all who are interested in this great question.

I do not wish to take up too much time of the House, but I should just like to say a word as to the death rate from typhoid fever in this country. When one remembers the great bodies of water we have in Canada, our great lakes and our great rivers, and then compares our condition with European countries, with their densely populated districts, and discovers that the death rate from typhoid is much higher in Canada than in those European countries, the condition is alarming and one that ought to command and demand the attention of this Parliament. According to a table submitted to the committee by Dr. Hodgetts the death rate from typhoid fever in Scotland was 6.2 per 1,000 population; in Germany 7.6; England and Wales 11.2; Belgium 16.8; Austria 19.9; Hungary 28.3; Italy 35.2; Canada 35.5; and the United States 46. These figures indicate the awful condition that prevails in Canada at the present time. It is positively alarming when we think of such great rivers as the one that flows by the base of this building. The Ottawa river is in an awful condition and has been so for many years. The condition of the Ottawa river ought to appeal to every man in this House; and it is but one of many of such rivers in Canada. In this city we have a great population of nearly 100,000, who are taxed for water, and the city of Ottawa supplies them with water that is utterly unfit for domestic purposes. It is unfit to drink, either for man or beast. It has been condemned, not only by the medical profession, but by the veterinary surgeons, who claim that the water of Ottawa is not fit for a horse or even a dog to drink. There have been a number of serious cases among the horses and dogs of this city on account of the dope that has been put in the water. Some scientists would have it that hypochloride is harmless, that it does not cause any serious trouble when put into water. But the medical profession of Ottawa will tell you that the continual doping of the Ottawa water supply has caused a great deal of sickness in the city, apart altogether from typhoid fever. No one doubts that hypochloride prevents typhoid epidemics for it kills the bacilli; but while it kills the bacilli, it ruins the constitutions of the people who drink the doped water. The con-