

To send them to jail has no specially deterrent effect on them. It is often a temporary boarding house expedient with them. But a long term of imprisonment at hard labor is the last thing they desire. Pick up a tramp wherever he may be found and give him hard labor for the benefit of the public until he is willing to become a safe and respectable citizen. If he is not willing to become such, then confiscate his labor to the State during his natural life.

The wages due these men can be credited to them and applied to the purpose of supporting those they should be supporting if following a proper life. This would serve a second good purpose and often prevent a wife and children becoming a burden on the community.

We hope to see some one in each of our Provincial Legislatures take this matter up. The Federal Government could well co-operate in legislation that is so much needed.

PUBLIC EFFORT IN THE CONTROL OF DISEASE.

It has often been said that governments should not be too paternal, and do too much for the people. There is no doubt a good deal of truth in the saying that the gods help those who help themselves. While this is true there is much that the public should do, indeed, must do, for the general weal of mankind, and for the prevention and cure of disease.

No one man could keep up an institute for the treatment of rabies. It has become an accepted rule of practice that the insane of a country should be cared for in large institutions. In like manner the sick poor are cared for in hospitals, and the consumptives in sanatoria for such cases.

But the public, that is the municipality, the Provinces and the Federal Government, must not rest here. There is much more that must be done. Private citizens do not dig canals for trade and commerce, nor do they construct harbors for shipping, and fortifications for the protection of the people. The public is only now becoming alive to its great responsibilities in the matter of the health of the people.

Very many, far too many, die each year of preventable diseases. Typhoid fever carries off its thousands, and these mainly in the prime of life. Why? Because municipalities sell polluted water to citizens. Very many die of diphtheria because the patient or his friends are too poor to secure a dose of the life-saving antitoxine. This should not be the case. A poor child is struggling for its life against an attack of this serious disease. The community owes it to all to protect life,