

elixir of life, or as the thaumaturgy of the rain-maker of Texas.

When I recall to your recollection the provision which exists for the treatment and care of the insane, of the blind, and of the dumb, the orphanages, industrial schools and various reformatories, the numerous hospitals and charities, the houses of refuge or poor houses, and last, the Act of the past Session, for taking care of neglected or orphaned children, the expenditure for all which, by the Ontario Government alone, reaches annually \$1,453,216.14—it becomes manifest from these *faits accomplis* that there are but two limits to this class of social, municipal, and governmental work, viz., the degree to which the public are informed regarding the need for work in this direction, and the extent of municipal and governmental financial ability.

Some may, indeed, realize what has been to some extent true, that the immediate cause of much of the public provision for the various defectives of our complex social organism has grown from the idea that it belongs to the police functions of the state; but we have only to examine the names on the boards of trustees and directors of any of the numerous institutions in our cities and towns, to realize that it has been still more largely due to the work of humane and Christian ladies and gentlemen, whereby these monuments of a people's happiness and enlightenment have been raised.

So much then for the argument as to the possibility of the scheme, and now a word as to the scheme itself.

It is unnecessary to refer to the various stages in the progress of disease in tuberculized persons it is enough for our purposes to realize two facts, first, that we desire, so far as possible, to establish conditions favorable either to the cure or, at least to the arresting of the progress of the disease; and second, that we desire, so far as possible, to lessen the danger to the healthy public, arising from cases where destruction of tissue with consequent expectoration are present, and at the same time to prolong the life of the unfortunate sufferer, and to make life as pleasant for him as possible in his declining strength.

How then are we to succeed in the first matter? Undoubtedly all will agree that there are climatic conditions, whether at home or in other countries, specially favorable for the residence of consump-

tives. To these the physician will send the patient, if the patient be financially able to bear the expense. Hence we have sanatoria being established and advertised everywhere; and without doubt many of these play an important part in the treatment of the disease.

But what have we in Ontario? Are our climatic conditions here so unfavorable for the residence of consumptives that their transportation for life becomes in every case a necessity if recovery is desired? I think there is no person prepared to go this far; and personally I am convinced from our statistics of deaths, that in the higher altitudes of the Province we have a climate fairly satisfactory for residence in tubercular cases. But we must assume for practical purposes that each county or group of counties can find within their own borders, or within easy access, a locality favorable from the standpoints of altitude, dryness of soil and atmosphere, and protection by hills and evergreens, for the establishment of a county or district home for the tuberculized. It is not necessary here to go into the details of such a home. I assume that it will be what the name implies, a place where the tuberculized may go and live, enjoying every advantage which climate, food, housing, occupation and medical supervision can give for their restoration to health; while at the same time they will not be a menace to the public. My idea on the one side already exists in the practice as seen in the selection, purchase, maintenance and control of our County Refuges; while on the other such home must partake of a more active and progressive industrial character, to which must also be added a more specialized medical treatment.

Except in the matter of these homes being supported by county funds, and so far as their purchase and equipment are concerned, it is my belief that such homes will, to a very considerable degree, be self-sustaining. When we remember how, by necessity, a consumptive father or mother, brother or sister, continues day after day for months, his daily task for the support of himself and those dependent upon him, it is not difficult for us to believe that in the out-done occupations of agriculture, horticulture, etc., a large number of persons can be pleasantly and healthfully engaged; while for inclement weather, work-shops for various industries would supply remunerative occupation.