

Dr. G. Sterling Ryerson expressed the opinion that Canada would be called upon some day in the future to face war, and that such might occur within the next generation. "We should, therefore, be prepared" was his advice.

POLLUTION OF PUBLIC WATERS.

Those appointed by the International Waterways Commission to consider the question of the pollution of lakes and rivers have reported. The report is the work of Dr. Allan J. McLaughlin, Surgeon-General of the United States Public Health Service; Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, Chief Medical Health Officer for Ontario; Dr. John A. Amyot, Bacteriologist for Ontario, and Mr. F. A. Dallyn, Sanitary Engineer for Ontario.

The point brought home by these experts is that every municipality along the Great Lakes and their connecting streams that uses untreated water for domestic purposes is maintaining a menacé to public health. In many cases the method of purification and sanitation is unsatisfactory and constitutes a grave problem. In Toronto, so far as the water is concerned, that part of the difficulty has been more or less overcome, but the sewage question is still imminent.

In going over the detailed reports it is observed that the water at the lower end of Lake Huron would be practically pure were it not for pollution due to steamboat traffic, while the concentration of boat traffic in the River St. Clair gave a decided increase in the bacteria count. Around the St. Clair River at Algonac there is gross pollution. At Walkerville and Windsor the intake pipes are in dangerous locations due to the pollution of the Detroit River water. In these towns, in spite of the efforts of chlorination, the typhoid rates remain too high. At the western end of Lake Erie there is gross pollution. The pollution at Port Stanley was found to be local. Towards Buffalo the main contamination is from steamboat traffic. In the Niagara River there is pollution along both shores, due to the immense volume of water passing down the main channel.

In Lake Ontario at Niagara the pollution may drift north, east or west. It continues without apparent diminution to almost the international boundary in the lake. In the early part of the season Lake Ontario is practically sterile, but as the season advances the pollution becomes serious.

The effect of all this pollution is that those who draw their water supply from points below the source of contamination is that they are in imminent danger. It is made clear that even large bodies of water