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EDITORIAL

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS AND VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is no greater objective to which publicists and humanitarians can bend their efforts than that of preventing tuberculosis and venereal diseases. That much has been done for the arrest of the former is now well known and recognized, but there is much still to be done. Just thirty-two years ago some medical men were called severely to task at a meeting the Ontario Medical Association, because they voiced the opinion that tuberculosis was a communicable disease, and restrictions should be placed about the sick. Great progress has been made since then. At the recent meeting of the Canadian Health Association we are informed that the death rate from this disease has been reduced from 149 per 100,000 of the population to 91.

The following resolutions were adopted:

- (1) Urging the establishment of tuberculosis clinics in Canadian cities where none at present exists.
- (2) That the anti-tuberculosis movement be extended to the training and for the protection of the youth of Canada.
- (3) That the Department of Militia and Defence be urged to have all new recruits carefully examined by chest specialists, etc., before acceptance to the army.
- (4) Urging the pasteurization of all milk and cream used in the manufacture of butter and cheese, and that this measure be made compulsory.

The nature of venereal diseases will render prevention more difficult, but the rule *salus populi suprema lex est* must prevail. Britain has seen the need for radical methods, and Australia has adopted effective legislation. This country must come in line in due course, and the sooner the better. One of the saddest sights in all medical practice is to see an innocent wife infected with syphilis, or a child born into the