

hard-working able official at present issuing his orders in re quarantine from the Department of Agriculture, which is an anomaly *per se*, and lessens the authority in a measure, and yet he has nothing to say as regards sick seamen, sick Indians, adulteration of food, vital statistics, and has no laboratory under his control.

The Prime Minister was most courteous, and listened patiently to the arguments set forth, and finally authorized Dr. Roddick to place a resolution on the order paper, with a view to having a discussion in Parliament before the Privy Council took up the matter in earnest.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier also stated that, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture, who was familiar with the whole question, he would not willingly go into the matter at greater length with a view to legislation, in the Minister's absence.

Dr. Roddick's resolution was as follows:

"That it is expedient in the public interest to constitute a Department of Public Health for the Dominion, charged with the execution of the various duties which are or may be, imposed upon or assumed by the Government, for the protection of the public health, and the prevention and mitigation of diseases, and that such Department of Public Health be administered under the direction of a Minister of the Crown, in conjunction with one of the existing Departments of the Government."

On the return of the Minister of Agriculture from Japan, your Committee was again convened, and waited upon him, when the subject was again carefully gone into. The Committee feel they have a warm advocate in Mr. Fisher, who is thoroughly alive to the necessities of the case, and if his colleagues in the Government would carefully consider this matter, and the justice and importance of the claim for consideration we as a profession are making, they would readily acquiesce. Some difficulties naturally stand in the way, and some difficulties are easily introduced into the way, but a way can be found for this measure to be put through, as has been found for other measures, and will be found for future measures, if only there is a willingness on the part of the Government to place this matter in the position it ought to occupy. Let me say that Parliament is still in session, and, therefore, it may yet transpire that the final decision of the Government may not be adverse, and the delay will be found to be due only to the great strain of urgent public business of weightier moment.

Your Committee expresses the hope that their efforts have not been entirely in vain, and they beg to report that, in their opinion, the profession as a whole must continue to press their claims for a