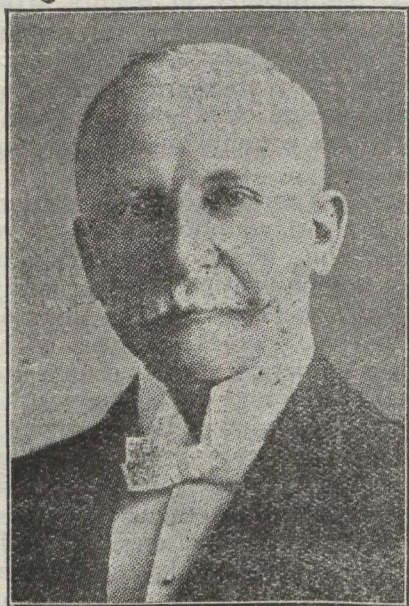


The Nationalization of the Medical Profession.

Dr. J. E. Hett, of Kitchener, Outlines His Ideas on the Nationalization of the Medical Profession—Government Departments Would Control Care of Sick and Diseased—Need Education.



DOCTOR J. E. HETT,

The following article by Dr. J. E. Hett, of Kitchener, Ont., on the Nationalization of the Medical Profession was written for The Canada Lancet. He deals briefly with a subject of deep importance to every man, woman and child in the country. But the article is a personal one given by Dr. Hett; he does not write for the committee of the inter-relations of the medical profession and the public, of the Ontario medical profession of which he is a member.

"In the health of the people lies the wealth of the nation."—Gladstone.

THE conservation of human life and to promote the health and happiness of the human race should be the most important economic department of the government by the state.

When we examine history and the different countries to-day we find that the nation which is at the bottom of the list in the arts and sciences and in the general progress of her people is the nation that is most diseased; and that with the nation in which there is the least sickness physically and mentally the arts and sciences, commerce and the general progress of her people is the farthest advanced.

To conserve human life is dictated even by the crudest economic motives. If the average span of life is increased, the potential wealth of the country is increased.

In the state of Massachusetts in 1855, the expectation of life of a person was forty years. At present it is over fifty.

It is estimated most conservatively that we produce more than we consume each year to the small amount of \$100 per capita. The addition of only one year of life per person adds to the national wealth of Canada no less than eight hundred million dollars.

This, however, is not all by any means. A man or woman is worth