

an essential article of food, by the cutting out of competitive advertising, and the present prodigal waste of time and labor in distribution.

As an Academy, our duty with regard to venereal diseases is not yet discharged.

The striking increase in the prevalence of venereal diseases in Canada is a question that must interest the whole medical profession. There are those who insist that the increase does not exist, but stubborn facts make apparent the falseness of their claim. The reluctance of legislative bodies to deal with this question is to be greatly regretted, and there can be no reason why this Province should not include these diseases in the Contagious Act. A very slight alteration of this Act would enable the police and other authorities to place the dangerous elements in society under control. The women of the street, who at present are at liberty to come and go as they please, and who carry on their wretched traffic unhindered, could thus be taken care of and treated in the early stages of disease. This would enable the authorities to weed out the defectives among these classes, and as a great proportion of the women actually engaged in the illicit traffic are definitely feeble-minded, they might be segregated, if the citizens would wake up to their responsibility.

It is, in my opinion, the duty of every physician to educate the people of the community to a knowledge of the present peril and to suggest this most sane way of dealing with it.

The well-known cover of Bairnsfather's "Fragments from France" bears the cartoon of two Tommies sitting in their dug-out contemplating the effect of a well-placed enemy shell, and remarking, "There goes our blinkin' parapet again," an endeavor by the artist to give utterance to the feeling of being—as the "Student in Arms" has it—"blasphemously fed up." We, as an Academy, are "blasphemously fed up" with the misdirection of the medical side of Canada and the great war by our Government and our Militia Department. The profession in Canada has always occupied a high position in the standing of its institutions of medicine, in the training and quality of its rank and file, and in the skill and wisdom of its leading practitioners, but we fail to note that a single endeavor has been made by those who govern to make use of these in any fair and proper way, although our profession has been equal, at least, to that of any other of the Allies, in the way it has come forward to assist—and to die when needful.

Compare the action of the United States. No sooner was war declared than the acknowledged leaders of medicine in every single department were called to Washington to consult on the most scientific way in which the trained profession could be utilized, and these com-