

authorities give a percentage of one-third as the proportion of deaths preventable by due regard for sanitary considerations. That having regard to the necessity of preserving and increasing the population of a new and largely unoccupied country, and measures tending to that end should be regarded as a first necessity. That the benefits derivable from immigration have been at times greatly curtailed by the deadly ravage of epidemic diseases among emigrants on their voyages, or recently landed on our shores, and by them communicated to the population generally. That it is the imperative duty of the Government to secure such information as will enable them on all occasions to grapple most readily and promptly with the importation of such diseases. That as the duty of enacting local sanitary legislation properly devolves upon the Provincial Legislatures, and as the Provincial Governments are in certain instances before mentioned specially charged with the duty of collecting vital statistics, it is desirable that the dominion government should secure for tabulation and arrangement all the information of such a nature obtained by the local authorities. That in any province where no system of registration is in force, the officers of the Federal Government should be directed to make a report from time to time of such matters as may bear upon the sanitary condition of the people. That it would also be desirable to obtain from competent sources information as to the influence on the public health in all sections of the dominion, of climate, soil and meteorological changes. That by the sanitary statistics of other countries being carefully compiled and tabulated for the purposes of comparison with those of the dominion, the Federal or Provincial legislatures should be encouraged to take such steps from time to time, as would be a guide to the public health, and place the whole or certain parts of the dominion in a favourable light in that respect before the world."

Did time and space permit, I could adduce facts on this subject that would be deemed incredible by the uninitiated, and especially in relation to "preventable" diseases.

Dr. John Simon, Chief Medical Officer of the Privy Council of Great Britain, in his preface to a volume of reports, made by the government inspectors, upon several epidemics, which had occurred in various parts of England, under the head of "Filth Diseases and their Prevention," says:—"The deaths which we in each year register, in this country (now about half a million a year) are fully one hundred and twenty-five thousand more numerous than they would be, if existing knowledge of the chief causes of disease, as affecting masses of the population were reasonably well applied throughout