

Diseases.	Oct., 1916.		Oct., 1915.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Smallpox . . . . .	6	0	5	0
Scarlet fever . . . . .	73	0	57	3
Diphtheria . . . . .	362	35	310	13
Measles . . . . .	248	1	400	6
Whooping cough . . . . .	253	1	61	2
Typhoid fever . . . . .	127	14	155	27
Tuberculosis . . . . .	141	64	114	61
Infantile paralysis . . . . .	31	7	4	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis . . . . .	12	9	10	9
	1,253	131	1,116	132

### "THE MOONSHINE CULTS OF HEALERS."

The following from the pen of Dr. James S. Sprague, of Belleville, appeared recently in *The Toronto Daily Star*. It is worth reproducing:

"To the ordinary, but more especially to the reader who knows some Latin and has a fair acquaintance with the potentiality of words, the word 'cult,' made use of by fakirs and their fellow-land pirates, it would clearly appear, has been mendaciously used and abused and with a pseudo or unctious plausibility for one purpose, and that is the evident ensnarement of the innocents and imbeciles. From *Medico-Legal Journal*, New York (August, 1916), I quote the words of Dr. Adlerman: 'We can safely make the following deduction: Every time the population of this country is doubled the insane are multiplied by three and the feeble-minded children by four.' It is to these facts I attribute the origin and existence of the ten so-named and presented cults, and others equally as daring and self-pretentious that fly by night or walk our streets in mid-day.

"Dr. Robt. Rentoul, in the *British Medical Journal*, states in England there exists a mental derelict, or imbecile, in some form, among 150 of its people. Dr. Shepherd, McGill University, is of the opinion that it may be wisdom to allow such cults birth and existence, for thereby our asylums and other retreats for imbecility would not become over-crowded. *The Medical Summary*, Philadelphia, August, 1916, presents a list, not one-half of the cults in existence in the United States, that are 'coming this way'—wanting recognition, even license to practise medicine. Over twenty million people in that country are treated by drugless 'healers.' There are nearly 200,000 doctors in the United States—university men—and they must live off of about 60,000,000 people and protect the national health, the army and navy, and the fakirs and cults from self-injury and protect the cults' imbeciles or weakling followers.