Council of his recent investigations in China, in which country he spent several months, should be read by every man and woman in the Province, and if the members of the Dominion Government could spare a few moments to glance through it, it would not be amiss. It is worthy of note, that the doctor's investigations emphasize the statements made by himself and Dr. Davie under oath, that infectious and contagious diseases were never absent from Hong Kong. This, at the time, THE HOME JOURNAL commented upon at length, and it is pleasing to note that the remarks of this paper have been fully and completely borne out by the subsequent investigations of our capable city health officer. Dr. Duncan is eminently qualified to enquire into this matter, as his duties in connection with safeguarding the health of this city brought him into direct contact with the Chinese; therefore his report is worthy of more than passing remark.

To Dr. Lowson, acting superintendent of the civic hospital at Hong Kong, the Victoria health officer acknowledges a debt of gratitude, for having personally accompanied him through the native quarters, and supplying him with facts as to their conditions of life and the diseases prevalent among them.

Although the bubonic (not butonic) plague had been nearly stamped out at the time of the arrival of the doctor in Hong Kong, there were sufficient patients left to afford him an opportunity to acquaint himself with the character of the malady. In this connection, it might be stated that this disease, which is germinated and fostered in filth, was brought to Hong Kong by the Cantonese, who constitute the greater portion of the Chinese immigration to this country. This fact alone should demonstrate the necessity of extra precautions in dealing with the Chinese landing at this port.

Dr. Ayres, a colonial surgeon, informed Dr. Duncan that smallpox was never absent from the Chinese, and he advised the necessity of special precautions, particularly during the winter months, when the Chinese are herded together for warmth, and being under insanitary conditions, smallpox becomes epidemic.

Canton, Dr. Ayres, says, is the filthiest city under heaven, and Dr. Duncan adds: "Since the greater number of emigrants come from that point (Canton), how great are the risks incurred by our community and how necessary it is to enforce the most stringent sanitary regulations against people coming from that quarter. Surely past experiences have amply demonstrated how true it is that Chinese immigration is, from the point of view of health, the most dangerous element against which we have to contend."

with the epidemics from which China is To effectually never absolutely free. prevent visitations of a character similar to the scourge of 1892, should be the duty of not only our citizens, but particularly the Dominion Government. In fact the spirit of the Act under which British Columbia went into confederation is that all modern safeguards be supplied to this Province. True, we have a quarantine station at William's Head, in perfect equipment and order; but it is equally true that on a recent occasion a boat landed two cases of smallpox in Yokohama, then brought on the suspects and two days after landing in Vancouver smallpox broke out among them. It is not enough to inspect the person and clothing of the Chinese; for Dr. Jones, the Dominion quarantine officer, did that in this case, but it was too early to detect the disease. is, as Dr. Duncan has contended, the baggage of the Celestials that requires the most attention, and the Dominion Government should bear the expense. The city health officer knows whereof he speaks, having handled seventeen isolated cases of smallpox in Chinatown during the year 1893, and did it in such a manner as to prevent a repetition of the epidemic of 1892. From whence came they?

Dr. Duncan concludes his report with the following advice: "Experience has shown that the health by-law requires amendment, and it may be that the provincial health law is susceptible of improvement. I may say that the city should have a well equipped suspect station, at which goods could be disinfected without injury, and to this matter I would respectfully call the attention of your honorable body. I write and have written strongly on these points, but as your medical health officer I do so with the strong conviction of my responsibility in the matter. We cannot take too many precautions against infectious and contagious diseases, and I trust that the city Council will not only regard the subject as I do, but will common sense have shown to be necessary."

The Government of the United States evidently believes that the surest means of securing honest employees for its post office service is to pay them enough to preclude the possibility of temptation. Therefore, when a young man enters the service of our Uncle Samuel, in any of the cities of the Pacific coast, he receives a salary of of \$75 per month. This, it is believed, and reasonably so, is sufficient to supply the wants of a man and his

served, that we are constantly threatened it is not expected that they will ever be able to lead a life of indolence and wealth as a result of their savings. Contrast the above with the salary which that eminent French-Canadian knight, Sir Adolphe Caron, allows the hard-working employee in the Canadian post office service-\$29.10! And still people wonder at Heads of families in Victoria. who have had experience in providing for the wants of the household, will be rather curious to discover by what means Sir Adolphe Caron can figure out a respectable living on 96 cents per day. Such a thing may be possible with the French-Canadian habitant, who grows his own highly-flavored tobacco, and lives generally on pea soup; but here in Victoria, or in any English-speaking community, it

cannot be accomplished.

As a result of their treatment by the Department at Ottawa, the Victoria post office employees went out on strike. In resenting the insult of Sir Adolphe in this manner, their action is upheld by the entire community, and the picayunish policy of the Postmaster-General is severely condemned. All that the mailcarriers and third-class clerks who, in the meantime, have returned to work, ask is that the provisional allowance of \$10 per month be continued, although it will be generally admitted, that even \$40 per month would be too small a salary for these public servants. In striking, they did not take the Postmaster-General unawares, as this action was threatened months ago, providing their reasonable request was not complied with. If the public was inconvenienced, the blame does not lie at the doors of the striking carriers and clerks, but rather the whole blame is attributable to Sir Adolphe Caron, who time and time again has promised to arrange the differences on a satisfactory basis. So far, he has faile to keep his word, and if the Government people find themselves face to face with a dilemma, they will not have to go further than their Postmaster-General to discover This is a matter which admits a cause. of no compromise, and the Government cannot plead ignorance of the real condiadopt all measures that experience and tion of affairs. Messrs. Earle and Prior have done their duty in bringing the matter officially before the Government. and privately have put forth every effort to convince the Ministers that they were doing the party an irreparable injury in this Province. They have even, I am led to believe, pointed out to Sir Adolphe Caron that in justice to themselves personally, they must demand as a right what the Ministers are disposed to regard as a concession.

At a chemical factory at Mulhouse, in Alsace, an accident recently occurred family, and perhaps leave a little margin which would be too gruesome to relate From the above, it may be readily ob- over for the proverbial rainy day, although had it not some scientific interest. An