

A year has passed, and the ideas thus crystallized have broadened into a Public Health Congress, which is to be held in Montreal, and which becomes for Canada the first concrete illustration of the unity of purpose of all interested in the many phases of our national health.

This meeting will be a notable one, more so even than that which instituted the Tuberculosis Association in 1900 under the patronage of Lord Minto, since this first Congress of the Canadian Public Health Association will be held under the distinguished patronage of Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General.

What the Association proposes is very well outlined in the programme published in this number of the *Journal*; but what it may become to Canada cannot as yet be fully foretold.

The Provinces of Canada were long looked upon as *disjecta membra*, each with its separate interests, working out its own problems in health, as in other matters, largely alone. Everywhere health officers were too often looked upon as necessary evils, like the nuisances they were supposed to abate, rather than as most important elements in the construction of the social fabric of a modern State. The engineer might build highways and construct waterworks, which the business men would finance; but it is to the medical officer to whom it is given to make those researches into the secrets of Nature and of Life, to the biologist, in fact, that we look for that guidance which will lead the people in every sphere to higher planes both of thought and action whether in regard

to personal hygiene, the education of the child, work in the field, shop or mine, or in those higher relations which make up our complex social life.

That the field of Public Health is, however, wider than biology is evident when the list of those who have become patrons, honorary officers, officers and members is examined. There will be seen His Royal Highness the Governor-General, the official embodiment of all the administrative wisdom and good will which the King and Imperial Government can send to the people of Canada. There we have Lord Strathcona, the Canadian Nestor, whose ninety years form a book of wisdom, illustrating obedience to every commandment in the decalogue of Hygiene; while the Premier of Canada and the Premiers of all the Provinces, together with their Ministers especially in charge of Public Health services, and the chairman of the Conservation Commission and his chairman of the health committee, are all to found amongst the Honorary Vice-presidents.

In its active membership we find all the professors of Hygiene in the colleges, the officials of the Public Health services of the Dominion and of the Provinces, the Officers of Health of hundreds of municipalities with associated architects, engineers and social workers generally, co-operating with our medical men in every part of Canada.

The people of this country will await with expectant interest the pronouncements of such an association on the many public health problems, the solution of which is of advantage to all.

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### CANADIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

#### Patron:

Field Marshal, His Royal Highness, the Governor-General.

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Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.

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The Hon. R. McBride, the Premier of the Province of British Columbia.