

logy in the state university of Minnesota he realized the duty of the state university to the state in the matter of Hygiene. He threw his laboratory open to the State Board of Hygiene; he became an active member of the Board; he co-operated so cordially with the Board that he made the University Laboratory of Bacteriology the place in which all the State bacteriological investigations were conducted. If there was an epidemic in the state, his university staff, co-operating with the district health officers, made full bacteriological studies, and controlled the situation so far as modern science is capable. His laboratory made and supervised the distribution of sets of apparatus placed at the disposal of the medical profession throughout the state for the diagnosis of diphtheria, typhoid, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases. The University Laboratory became thus the centre from which the medical men of the state obtained expert bacteriological advice regarding their cases, and rapidly Minnesota became the model which other states have copied.

The general prevalence of tuberculosis and its appalling death rate seem to have been taken more or less as a matter of course until Koch's discovery of its specific cause, and the proof that it was a communicable disease. Even then it was some time before the medical profession and the public at large realized that it was a preventable disease, and with that realization a world-wide movement began for its suppression.

The Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis was founded in 1900 in Ottawa under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency Earl Minto, and here is a paragraph from its constitution which will show the scope of its work:

ARTICLE II.—The object of this Association shall be to prevent the spread of Tuberculosis or Consumption by the circulation of literature, lectures; the employment of visiting nurses; the establishment of dispensaries, relief homes or sanatoria, as circumstances may require or warrant; the enforcement of the provincial laws relating to public health and promoting further legislation if necessary; and the use of any other means that may be expedient to secure the desired end.

With these objects in view our work has

been steadily progressing. This progress may be gathered in part from the report by our secretary. These annual reports grow each year, and when one realizes how much effort is required to arouse public apathy, based upon the old belief that Consumption was a hereditary disease and practically hopeless, the results of the policy laid down by our Association are certainly encouraging.

Twelve years ago there was but one institution for the Tuberculous in Canada, now there are over twenty. Then there were no dispensaries and visiting nurses; now there are over a dozen of the former and many of the latter. Lectures upon the prevention of this disease were unheard of, while now, not only are our special lecturers working in this line, but physicians and officials connected with various societies and health boards are performing this necessary work all over the Dominion. Literature is likewise being spread over the land by boards of health and local societies, as well as our own Association.

Needless to say, much that has already been done in our country towards proper provision for the tuberculous has been initiated by private philanthropy, and we can never be too grateful to those altruistic men and women who are identified with this movement.

This great movement would be far behind were it not for the philanthropy of the late Mr. Hammond, Mr. Gage, Col. Burland, Hon. Mr. Perley, Mr. Lorne McGibbon, John Ross Robertson, Mrs. Crerar and the Hon. Adam Beck, to say nothing of those who have worked so assiduously for the cause. Private philanthropy, however, is insufficient for the great task and governments and municipalities must take more of the burden upon themselves. Ontario has legislated wisely, however, in assisting local effort by grants to any county erecting institutions for the care of the tuberculous and by a maintenance grant as well. This policy is being followed by Alberta and, also, a bill is being passed in Nova Scotia along the same lines. We believe that this is a local question, and must to a large extent be handled locally.

More than two years ago it fell to me as President, at the instruction of our Executive, to forward a circular letter to