

the days before Villemin, to say nothing of those before Koch, is fair evidence that this province is either unduly conservative or indifferent in some matters of public health. As a question of business method in meeting our problem, it is surely necessary to know where we stand in this matter regarding prevalence and social conditions, and this can only be accomplished by a stock-taking, made possible by notification and registration being enforced as a provincial measure, or at least encouraged as a municipal measure by government. Sociologists, both lay and medical, who have deeply considered the desirability of, and the effects produced by, notification and registration, and who have been instrumental in effecting it in their communities, where it has worked well, find the evidence so overwhelmingly in favour of it, and so little to be said in opposition, that to them serious discussion of the subject seems almost futile. To control the situation this measure is the logical first step, but it must be remembered that it is the initial measure towards the attainment of a desired end, and not an end in itself. Along with notification and registration must go the power to follow up and supervise cases, as otherwise the law will have but little practical bearing, and it will also be of extremely limited value if facilities are not provided and used to make registration effective in prevention. The success of notification has been found to be directly proportionate to the amount of help forthcoming for the notified patients. Bulstrode in his report to the Local Government Board, England, emphasizes the view that notification should not be made compulsory except under special enactment, such as expressly dissociates, administratively, phthisis and everyday infectious diseases.

While there are a number of moot points, every argument brought against notification, can be reasonably met either by theory or by the result of experience, and it has been shown that a practical law can be framed and administered without causing hardship to the individual. In other communities opposition may be said to have arisen hitherto from practically only one source, namely, the medical profession, and where lay opposition arises it has been found that it can be traced to this source. It is quite possible that the opposition on the part of our profession, which has been so insistent in some communities, would be materially less were the procedure of the State of Maryland adopted. There, a fee of \$1.50 is allowed for each case reported, in order to compensate for the time consumed through filling out the necessary forms for notification and explaining to the patient and his family the principles of