

Q. What is your opinion with regard to this present law, as to the advisability of carrying it on or not?—A. I think it would be wise to go slowly.

Q. You would not advocate the passing of this law as it is written here?—

A. No.

Q. At the present time.

By the Chairman:

Q. What would be your opinion about starting with a certificate the nature of which would be about as follows? If you will kindly follow Schedule A, Certificate of Medical Practitioner in the Bill, I shall read.

"I, (names in full of medical practitioner), of (place of residence) in the county of..... in the (province of or as the case may be).....in the Dominion of Canada, hereby certify....."

(1) That I am duly qualified under the law of the said province to practise medicine therein and I reside and practise at..... aforesaid;"

I have not changed anything in that part.

"(2) That I have within ten days before the date of this certificate examined the mental and physical condition of (names in full or person examined), of (place of residence of person examined), in the said province, (occupation of person examined);

"(3) That as the result of such examination I am of opinion that, at the date of this certificate, the said John Smith was in my opinion, free from venereal disease and is not otherwise mentally or physically unfit to be married."

This is somewhat, if not entirely, on the lines of the Wisconsin law. It means only a clinical examination—a body examination, as it were.—A. Well, now, may I ask a question? Suppose that either bride or groom soon after marriage contracts the disease, one from the other. What is the position of the medical examiner?

Q. That is a very good point that you are raising, Doctor.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: He must be protected.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, he must be protected.

Dr. STARR: Yes, he must be protected.

By the Chairman:

Q. And he would be protected by the statute. When he has said that in his opinion the man is free from venereal disease, whatever happens afterwards cannot be used against him.—A. Personally I would hesitate to sign such a certificate unless I were very intimately acquainted with both parties, or with either party examined.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: Would that apply to women too?

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: Just the men?

The CHAIRMAN: Just the men. I think that whatever we do we must leave the young lady out.

Dr. STARR: I think so.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: Oh, yes.

The CHAIRMAN: For the time being.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: It would not be acceptable at all to include the women.