

Dr. Amyot solicits the help, encouragement and support from outside bodies, such as the Ontario Medical Association, and states that any advice or suggestions which our Association can offer will be cheerfully and gratefully received.

Beyond peradventure one of the most important divisions established in the Department of Health is that of Child Welfare. During the past few years much valuable work has been performed with the object of reducing infant mortality and it is understood that Dr. Helen MacMurchy of Toronto who has done so much to call attention to the deplorable and unnecessary losses of life during infancy and early childhood, has been appointed to take charge of this division.

Dr. MacMurchy states in a letter, that whereas our loss in battle during the great war was 60,000 men, we lost during the same period about 70,000 Canadian children under one year of age. Surely this terrific personal and economic loss constitutes a sufficient reason for our governments to spend all the public money necessary to establish an organization competent to inaugurate and prosecute such a campaign as will eliminate such terrible waste by reducing infant mortality to an irreducible minimum.

Think of it! Seventy thousand Canadian children died while under one year of age during a period of a little more than four years and from causes largely preventable. Surely this constitutes a most serious reflection upon our state of national health and every commendable effort put forth by individuals, constituted and governing bodies, tending towards the correction of this deplorable state should command the sympathy and support of all our people.

There has recently been established a Canadian National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases with the support of the Federal Government, and in each province an executive branch of this council has been constituted to co-operate and to form a medium of further co-operation on the part of local branches which are to be organized in a very general way throughout Canada. The membership of this body will be largely constituted of men and women anxious to learn about venereal disease and to lend a helping hand in the fight against it. Its work will be largely along educational lines and its endeavour will be to co-operate with all judicial organizations engaged.

There is a Canadian National Council of Mental Hygiene and sporadic advances in psychiatry in its relation to public health have been made. Lack of more definite progress is no doubt due to lack of co-operation on the part of those interested and lack of co-ordination of the forces at work. Those most actively engaged in the work and who are carrying on the propaganda in its favour are in a measure self selected, remunerated