

Roddick, M.P., and Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, Montreal. This Committee reported through Dr. Powell to the Association at London on the 26th day of August as follows:

Ottawa, August 24th, 1903.

*To the President and Members of the Canadian Medical Association:*

Gentlemen,—Your Committee, consisting of Dr. T. G. Roddick M.P., Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, and Dr. R. W. Powell, convener, acting under instructions from your President, had the honor to wait upon the Prime Minister to represent to the Government the resolution passed at the last meeting of your Association on the question of the creation of a Department of Public Health under one of the existing Ministers. The whole matter was gone into thoroughly, and your Committee endeavored to press upon the attention of the Government the great desirability and importance of placing all matters included under the term "public health," with which the Dominion Government has to do, upon a higher basis than now obtains.

It was pointed out that this Association, representing the whole Dominion, in which there are over 5,500 practitioners, had concluded that it would be in the best interests of the general public welfare of the Dominion that such should be done, and that the time has come when Canada should be elevated from the entirely secondary place she now occupies among the nations in this branch of the public service, and that she should at once have a status conferred by Parliament whereby all questions relating to sanitary science and public health should be dealt with from a central authority, to be known as the Public Health Department.

Many matters of detail were not particularly discussed at the interview, inasmuch as your Committee felt that their duty consisted chiefly in pressing upon the Government the main idea by endeavoring to show that the present system of having the various subjects scattered throughout several departments, with consequent multiple division of authority, was not calculated to impress the public with the great importance of the administration.

Your Committee, moreover, insisted strongly that our profession was a strong, active body of earnest workers, and their number and influence entitled them to this consideration, which was for the public welfare, and not in any way directly or indirectly for their personal benefit, and finally it was pointed out that the skeleton of this plan is already well laid, and a Director-General of Public Health holds an appointment to-day, an earnest