

Hon. J. D. Hazen said that there was no legal objection to the establishment of such a bureau; the only point being what matters should be left for it. He went on to point out what had been done by Parliament such as quarantine, and the inspection of immigrants. The growth of the work done on health matters by the provinces had relieved the Federal Government of much that it would otherwise have been forced to take up.

We adhere to the view we have frequently repeated, that the Federal Government should establish a Health Bureau, and cannot do it too soon.

THE FRENCH RED CROSS.

To give some idea of the vastness of the work that is being done by the various Red Cross societies, we may mention what is being done by the branch in France. During the seventeen months of the far it has expended \$6,400,000. It has operated 796 hospitals, with 67,081 beds, and with a total of 21,000,000 days care to the patients.

The Union des Femmes de France, the second in size, has 28,446 nurses, has equipped 355 hospitals with 29,000 beds. The Association des Dames de France has 16,000 nurses, in 350 hospitals with 22,000 beds.

The mortality among the Red Cross nurses has been remarkably heavy considering the character of their work and the immunity they are supposed to enjoy under the international regulations. Twenty-two members of the Society for Aid to the Wounded Soldiers have given their lives to the cause, some of them killed under shell fire, others carried off by contagious diseases. The nurses of this society have received sixty-three epidemic medals, sixty war crosses and one cross of the Legion of Honor.

The first Red Cross victim of the war was Mlle. Susanne Gilles, who fell at Luneville with her chest torn by the fragments of a shell that burst inside the hospital ward where she was attending wounded. The next was Mlle. Cagnard, at Cambrai, who is declared to have been shot point blank by a Prussian soldier firing into the hospital through the window. During the bombardment of Rheims seven women of the Red Cross became victims of the bombardment, including Mme. Fontaine-Faudier, Mlle. Causse and five Sisters of Charity.

Very many of these nurses are from the best families in France who never were accustomed to work. They give their time, and in many instances pay sums of money for the privilege of serving in their country's cause.