

However, I presume there is no other problem in preventive medicine or state medicine so engaging the attention of all civilized nations to-day, as that of the ways and means by which they can best secure a pure milk supply. Unfortunately, in the Province of Ontario, and we may add in the Dominion of Canada, there has been no systematic inspection of milk supplies or bacteriological examination only from a commercial standpoint, except in Ottawa, but the marked similarity of conditions found by dairy inspections and bacteriological examinations in Germany, France, England and the United States of America is quite sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case upon which we should take prompt action.

Inspection in the United States has revealed spectacles of a most revolting character. The filthy condition of the cow, stables, utensils, and the milkers, and in fact at every turn from the cow to the consumer, the milk is exposed to reinforcements of myriads of bacteria. The conditions in England as reported by some of the officers of health are as follows:—

Dr. Groves<sup>9</sup>, Medical Officer of Health in England, referring to many reports from the inspectors, said: "The conditions under which milk is procured in many parts of the country, especially among small dealers, is too awful to describe." Dr. Hime<sup>10</sup>, M. O. H., describing conditions which he found in the farms which supplied Bradford with milk, states that he saw children's napkins washed in milk cans, and once he saw articles more foul being washed in milk cans that were to be used in an hour later for dairy purposes. The report of the Health Officer for Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire<sup>11</sup> stated that the great majority of the dairies and farms visited were in a dirty condition and totally unfit for the production of pure milk. In fact, cumulative evidence of the unfitness of English dairies might be quoted almost indefinitely. Almost identical reports are handed in in all countries in Europe where inspections have been made. In most instances both the stables and the cows were found in a most unsanitary condition; the cows were milked and the milk handled by those who were absolutely ignorant of hygiene or sanitation.

In June last, by invitation of the Great Ormond St. Children's Hospital<sup>12</sup>, representatives of the various London children's Hospitals met to discuss their milk supply, the unsatisfactory milk supply having been a matter of concern for some years, but they were deterred from action on the grounds that a better milk supply would entail increased expenditure (human life placed in the scales with dollars and cents, or rather, pounds,