

severe nervous ailments it would help considerably. I would specify the diseases, and not leave it in a blanket form so that the medical man might become confused. He may not know whether to include heart trouble, or what not.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. What is the situation in Wisconsin in this regard?—A. Wisconsin does not demand a certificate of mental health; there is no State in the world that demands it. I am ahead of the picture, so to speak.

Q. What do they do down there?—A. All they ask is in regard to a venereal disease. But in these other States they do say, in many of them, that it is unlawful for an insane person or a feeble-minded person to be married. But it means nothing, because who is going to be held responsible? A clerk who issues a license can say, "Well, how do I know whether a person is insane; I am not trained along that line?" So that it is not operative. It may not be operative there, but I look to Canada to bring about some legislation that is ahead of other countries, and while it is not pertinent to this bill—I admit that—still there would be a gesture in the right direction that would meet no opposition in this country, I am positive as to that. The people are "sold" on the idea that nervous and mental cases should not have the responsibility of rearing children; it only makes their own cases worse, and is instrumental in bringing into the world other individuals of like character.

*By Hon. Mr. Schaffner:*

Q. You said you would recommend some Bill that was a gesture, but you certainly would not say that this Bill was a gesture?—A. No, quite frankly I think anything to weaken it would make it non-operative. I think it would be well to have a Bill that would make a certificate necessary for the man, and put it up to the physician's judgment how far he should go in clinical and laboratory tests. In that way you would get better results than they have had in Wisconsin, providing you have the medical profession behind you. I think I can speak, with Dr. Bates, for the medical profession, that they would be as keen as could be to co-operate with you. The Medical Association meets shortly, and they would promote open discussion about the subject. That, in itself, would have some value in an educational way throughout the country.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Your idea would be that we should report that the opinions of the medical bodies throughout Canada be secured in connection with this legislation, before anything definite is done?—A. I would certainly say so, Mr. Chairman—I would strongly urge it.

Q. And your reason is that without co-operation with the medical profession it would be extremely difficult to enforce the law, whatever it is, and that the goodwill and co-operation of the medical profession, once secured, would facilitate in a very large measure the operation of such a law?—A. Yes, quite so.

*By Hon. Mr. Schaffner:*

Q. Did I understand you to say that there are only 79,000 people in Canada who are tubercular?—A. Yes.

Q. And 150,000 mentally defective?—A. No, I did not put it "mentally defective"—I said "who are mentally defective, insane and suffering from nervous disorders." We have to divide those groups. We do not like the general public to confuse mentally deficient with insane.

The CHAIRMAN: And you also say that the 150,000 in Canada are unable, on account of that condition, to earn a living?—A. Yes, that is quite true.