

It should hardly be necessary to present any argument in support of work of this kind. The lives of the citizens are the greatest asset of the state, and it is the financial as well as the moral duty of a Government to promote the health and well-being of the people. The money value of a human life is hard to estimate, but is known to be high. The cost of saving lives and the prevention of sickness by modern methods is far more than paid by the added wealth and productiveness of the community. The advertising value of healthful conditions where human lives as well as property are protected is also to be considered. Looked at from a less practical, but still important, point of view, the suffering and sorrow of many people can thus be reduced or done away with altogether.

At the present time the need for Public Health Work is particularly pressing, due to some of the unfortunate effects of the war. France is now burdened with great numbers of cases of tuberculosis and venereal disease among both the civil and military populations, and very little can be done there to put them under control. It is certain that many soldiers who are affected with these most destructive of communicable diseases are now returning to this country, and will continue to return in growing numbers until after the war. Unless the proper machinery for their prevention and cure is put into operation without delay, the results will be disastrous indeed.

GENERAL OUTLINE.

This report is divided into five general parts. The first two deal with local and Provincial conditions and their respective relations to health. In the third part, an effort has been made to outline a plan for a changed organization and to suggest how a central power, by its assistance, advice and authority, may control the administration of new health laws throughout the Province. A brief summary makes up the fourth part, and an appendix contains some details of local conditions, press comments, and a few facts regarding the extent of the Survey.