

said: "It is estimated that one hundred thousand people die annually from tuberculosis in the United States; making due allowance for the number who being saved from tuberculosis, might fall a victim to accident, or some non-preventible disease, it would, I think, be a fair estimate to assume that the average number of years of usefulness lost by each of these one hundred thousand people is ten years. We then lose every year by tuberculosis the earning capacity of one million people for one year, which, put down in dollars and cents, at the low estimate of an average earning capacity for each individual of three hundred dollars, would amount to three hundred million dollars;" and, after pointing out the loss of earning power incidental to the care of the sick, he adds: "The annual loss to the public wealth of the United States, because of the existence of tuberculosis, will reach close on to five hundred million dollars. The expenditure of one-fifth of that amount by the Federal and State Governments for the extermination of the disease, would completely wipe out the disease in a single generation." With a like calculation, according to population, and making ample allowance for our healthier climatic conditions, the loss to the public wealth of Ontario might be placed at \$15,000,000, and the Dominion at, say, \$35,000,000 annually.

It is communicated chiefly through patients carelessly expectorating on the streets and public places, as well as in their homes. The sputum when dried forms an impalpable powder, which is carried by the atmosphere directly to the lungs, and we all know the results in those who have a predisposition to tuberculosis either inherited or acquired. Additional interest locally has been given the subject by the generous and laudable offer of one of the members of this Board, Mr. W. J. Gage, toward the erection of a hospital in this city for the exclusive benefit of those afflicted with consumption. Such an establishment located here under proper regulations, would not only afford much needed relief to a large class of our own people, and bring numerous patients here during the summer season from the enervating climate of the South, but would give prominence to our city as a desirable health resort, which would be greatly to our advantage.

In view of the importance of the subject, I trust the public will be aroused to the necessity of immediate action towards the prevention of this most prevalent and fatal of all diseases,

BANKING.

The chartered banks, although meeting legitimate demands of business, have continued to pursue a conservative policy in the face of an unusually large accumulation of inactive funds—a policy wisely calculated to enforce caution and economy, the necessary and sure precursors of a return to good times. As a result of this policy, and in sympathy with the general depression, the profits have not reached the figures of former years.

Public deposits with the banks have grown from \$170,479,224 on the 31st December, 1893, to \$182,080,669 on 31st December, 1894.