

contributions. It would be better could one or two wealthy men come forward and not merely build, we would not say necessarily a complete sanatorium, but certainly the nucleus of such, and building it, endow the portion thus established. There is and has been in the past a great tendency in Montreal and elsewhere for those charitably disposed, recognizing the needs of the community in one or other directions to build and equip hospitals and like institutions and to leave it to others to find the means necessary for the maintenance of the same in succeeding years. The result is that slowly but steadily the number of individual calls to help on this or that good work is becoming so considerable that the amount available to properly carry on individual charities is collected with increasing difficulty, so that each new charity tends to diminish the efficiency of those already existing. It is a delicate matter to advise about such things, for advice may seem to imply ungenerous criticism of work accomplished with the highest motives, work by which the community benefits most materially. Yet the signs of the times are undoubtedly that in the near future he will be considered to accomplish the most good with his benefactions who does not place all of them in land and buildings, but makes his gift with the express stipulation that while one-half is employed in building, the other half—or thereabouts—is utilized as an endowment fund.

In pointing this out, we by no means wish to throw cold water upon the newly formed association. On the contrary, we are in full accord with all the speakers at the recent meeting, and recognize thoroughly that the spread of tuberculosis is a blot upon our civilization, and that it is essential to encourage every means of arresting that spread. The Association has our hearty support; we do but feel it necessary to emphasize what seems to be already realized by those who have been the movers in this work, that great care must be taken lest in making an advance in one direction, we arrest advance in others.

CHOLELITHIASIS.

A formal pre-arranged discussion forms one of the most interesting and instructive features of a medical convention. Those who take part come prepared to give the results of their experience and an epitome of the latest work done relating to the subject.

At the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association in September last, one of the largest gatherings assembled to listen to and take part in the discussion on Cholelithiasis. It was opened by Dr. McPhedran, of Toronto, in a most elaborate and thoughtful paper, which appears in the present number of the JOURNAL. Dr. McPhe-