

It is, however, as yet too early to speak with any definiteness on this point. We will not have to wait long before the question of the value or otherwise will be thoroughly tried and decided on. The great number of eager and able workers now in this field will soon place our knowledge on a firm basis. Let it be hoped that scientific medicine has added one more strong barrier to the ravages of a cruel disease.

AN UNJUST TAX.

We believe that the Canadian Government stands alone among the Governments of the civilized world in exacting a duty on the diphtheritic anti-toxine. It is difficult to understand the short-sighted policy of instituting such a tax. We are informed that a few of the first importations of the diphtheritic anti-toxine were admitted free, but that the officious officials decided that a duty of 50 per cent. should be levied in future.

It is to be hoped that this and similar unjust taxes will soon be done away with. Now that the Cabinet have a medical man among their number this hope may be realized. The taxing, and that heavily, of nearly all instruments, appliances and apparatuses used in the investigation and treatment of disease is a matter that has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Canadian Government, but without any result. Such a tax is a great hindrance to the advance of the profession. It is not only felt by practitioners in their private work, but also by hospitals. All suffer—the rich as well as the poor.