

The question of Federal aid for provincial sanatoria was next considered. After much discussion it was moved by Sir James Grant, seconded by Mr. Geo. H. Perley, M.P. for Argenteuil :

“That, whereas, the following resolution was agreed to unanimously by the House of Commons on 20th February, 1905, viz.:—

“That in the opinion of this House the time has arrived when Parliament should take some active steps to lessen the widespread suffering and the great mortality among the people of Canada, caused by the various forms of tuberculosis.”

“It is hereby resolved that this association do now and hereby, respectfully petition the Dominion Government to take such action as may be expedient to constitute a Royal Commission with authority to enquire into and report upon what active steps should be taken to lessen the wide-spread suffering and the great mortality among the people of Canada caused by the various forms of tuberculosis.

“It is further resolved that a special committee be appointed by the Executive Council of the association to forward this matter.”

Prof. J. W. Robertson emphasized the fact that the Government had asked for a definite scheme; showing that business was meant.

Dr. Chas. Sheard, Medical Health Officer, Toronto, favored a Commission, and pointed out that there were many difficulties in the way. The treatment of consumption was an expensive matter, which explained, perhaps, the reluctance of municipalities to take up the work. He had observed, at least, one result of the dissemination of literature bearing on the subject; the people had become frightened, and the poor consumptive was everywhere ostracized. He cited several instances that had come under his notice in an official way.

Dr. Third, of Kingston, also favored a Royal Commission, and agreed with Dr. Sheard regarding the difficulties to be overcome. He did not think the sanatorium offered a final solution of the problem. General Hospitals had been in existence many years, yet only a very small percentage of the sick had availed themselves of the privileges of these institutions, and he felt confident only a small percentage of tuberculosis patients would go to the special sanatoria; the great mass