

the eucalyptus globulus has been found of great advantage in the marshy districts of the Southern States. He said that the subject deserved the consideration of the Provincial Board of Health, and it was a question whether the Government should not take action in cases where intervention was necessary on sanitary grounds.

Dr. McDONALD spoke of the eucalyptus globulus, and the merits and demerits of tree cultivation.

Dr. OSLER said that reports from the United States shewed malaria to be on the increase. In Montreal cases of ague have become more frequent.

Dr. FERGUSON referred to a case where the removal of a strip of woodland had been followed by the appearance of malaria where none had previously existed. In the County of Grey a tract of 200 acres of swampy land which had caused a great deal of malaria was cleared and put in grass. For ten years no ague was reported. The land was again broken up, and immediately after five cases of ague were reported.

Dr. RIDDEL said that forty or fifty years ago ague was prevalent in Toronto all along the front of the city. Wherever there were swamps, marshy lands, and rich grass there ague would be found. The products of decayed vegetation often ascended in the form of gas, and this created a new danger. In Toronto ague seemed to have been replaced by typhoid and other fevers.

Dr. OLDRIGHT was glad to see that this important matter was receiving so much attention. The Ontario Government had requested the Board of Health to enquire into the cause of malarial disease in certain districts. There was no doubt that these diseases were increasing in some districts, where dams and collections of decomposing sawdust were common. The disease was also on the increase in certain of the States, and commissions of enquiry were being instituted. In some of even the most elevated districts the disease was very rife.

Dr. WORKMAN enquired whether the malarial influences of the Don had received the consideration of the Board of Health, and whether the increase of disease there was due to the closing of the Lying-in Hospital.

Dr. OLDRIGHT said the closing of the hospital was a matter for which the Government was responsible, and the Board did not feel it their duty to interfere unasked.

Dr. WORTHINGTON stated that malaria was found in high as well as in low grounds, but the

cause, if traced, would always be found to be the decomposition of vegetable debris.

SANITARY STATISTICS.

Dr. CANNIFF submitted the following resolution from the Sanitary Committee:—That for the present the collection of sanitary statistics shall be confined to the cities and large towns of the Dominion, the results to be published monthly, and the deductions drawn therefrom to be circulated in the various centres specified. That a commission be appointed by the Dominion Government in order that by consultation and co-operation of the Local Government a common basis may be arrived at for carrying out such sanitary measures as may be necessary for the consent of the Dominion Government. The commission to consist of two or more medical men with a legal adviser.

Dr. FENWICK said it was important that there should be a committee in communication with the Government on the subject. He had spoken to Dr. Carpenter in regard to this matter, and had asked him if there were any means of getting statistics in England. Dr. Carpenter said there was not, the health and disease tables being based upon the mortuary returns. To get full statistics of disease was an undertaking that no Government in the world would attempt. He wished to bring out this point, and he hoped that the substance of the report would be sent to the Government as the official report emanating from the Association. (Applause.)

Dr. OLDRIGHT said the subject of the collection of statistics on disease was a new one. In their desire to get these statistics they had the strong support of the evidence of Dr. Lyon Playfair, who said that while the death statistics showed the wrecks which had been cast upon the shore, the statistics of disease served to give warning of impending storms. Disease statistics would show when a certain disease was threatening a district. Death statistics often gave the information too late. He would regret any resolution of the kind recommended by the committee. In Ontario the medical men applied to for these statistics had none of them made the excuse that they were too busy to get the information. There were many diseases which stopped short of death which it was desirable to check. In order to put restrictive regulations into force it would be necessary to get information at the time the disease was raging.