

of instances, making the result a small house of one, two or at most three rooms. We have recently had by Profs. Carnelley and Jamieson, and just now Dr. Russell, of Glasgow, illustrations of how mortality there, increases regularly with decreasing rooms; but there can be no surprise that with infectious disease, where saprophytic decomposition, products of exudation in the pharynx, etc., are being constantly exhaled in a house 12x16 feet, that the air with closed doors becomes that of a charnel house and as deadly to the helpless children, awaiting their turn, and not seldom to the worn-out and heart-broken mother who has seen one after another of the lambs taken out from her fold.

3rd. House to house communication, for, while settlement is sparse, it is most common to find that through accident of location by lake, stream or on goodland, the few settlers in a township tended to build convenient of access to each other. Pressing need in a stricken house, and human sympathy cause one neighbour to go and enquire and at times go in to aid in nursing, or at any rate sit down to discuss the situation, thereby doing all necessary to carry the infection on their clothing from so pestiferous an atmosphere to their children at home. Thus Dr. Curry of Minden, has stated, that along one concession line, of a number of houses, only two escaped having cases of diphtheria and they were new comers not acquainted with the previous settlers.

4th. Distance from medical aid and supplies, and absence of municipal sanitary supervision and control. This is exemplified by Dr. Lehman's report on the townships of Nipissing, Gurd, Patterson, Hardy, McConkey, etc., "all unorganized, containing a considerable population of settlers and lumbermen, having a very large number of cases of Diphtheria with percentage of deaths very large, no medical attendance, sanitary condition very bad both as to dwellings, water supply, garbage and privy regulations."

5th. *Lumber Camps*.—These complicate the problem very notably. Not only do the crowded shanties become, as it were, permanent seats of infection, affecting susceptible persons from time to time during successive winters, but sick men from them are sent out to the nearest settlement, to which they not infrequently spread the infection, or still further spread the disease by travelling in hot and crowded coaches (to southern points where

they live) to seek hospital and medical accommodation and assistance. Such are the prominent factors in the problem. While it is true that many of the same conditions prevail in well-settled communities, yet it may fairly be said that while in the latter the people are in a position to help themselves, in this northern country the conditions are such as to make action impossible. The few poor and scattered settlers, are not organized into a municipality, and even if they were the four or five hundred dollars they raise annually are spent in roads and bridges. Schools in these new districts are largely supported by Government. The lives of the settlers must to some extent come under the aegis of a paternal government.

But how to do this best is the problem. In the materials collected we have it made evident that there are a number of prominent points in the different districts from which work will have to be done.

Beginning as Dr. Lehman has done in his report we have:

1. Sundridge District—Dr. Toole, Med. Health Officer.
 - South (a) Armour—organized, including Burk's Falls Village.—Dr.
 - West (b) Chapman—organized, including Magnetawan Village.—Dr.
 - North (c) Machar—unorganized.
 - (d) Laurier—unorganized.
 - East (e) Joly—unorganized.
2. Powassan District—Dr. Porter lives there.
 - (a) Himsworth—unorganized, includes Powassan Village.
 - West (b) Gurd—unorganized, includes Commanda Settlement.
 - North (c) Himsworth—organized, includes Callender.
 - North-West (d) Nipissing—organized.
 - (e) Patterson, Hardy, Mills, McConkey, Wilson—unorganized Lumber Camps.
3. Suggested new District to be worked from Commanda.
4. North Bay District—Dr. Caruthers, Med. Health Officer (in organized township of Widdifield).
 - North (a)
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
5. East Nipissing District—Mattawa has a physician.