

portation and distribution of milk by producers, carriers or vendors; the making of bacteriological tests for the purpose of ascertaining the wholesomeness of milk offered for sale by any producer, carrier, or vendor; and such other matters regarding the production, care, transportation, or sale of milk as the local council may consider necessary; and upon such regulations being approved in writing by the Minister of Agriculture, the same shall apply to all milk produced for sale in such municipality.

The Milk Act further authorizes the council of every municipality to regulate the sale of milk to licensed dealers; to fix standards of butter fat and solids in milk; to prevent the use of preservatives, etc., and to appoint inspectors to enforce these regulations.

In connection with the inspectors' work, the result of all milk tests shall now be open to public inspection at all reasonable times and may be published by the Medical Health Officer of the local municipality if he so desires.

The Act prohibits the sale of milk from diseased cows or that produced in places where persons are suffering from diseases, while cans, bottles, etc., are not to be used for any other purpose and are to be properly cleansed.

An excellent section of this Act contains the direction that every municipality is authorized to establish and maintain or assist by annual grant or otherwise, in the establishment and maintenance of milk depots in order to furnish a special supply of milk to infants. It shall also be unlawful in Ontario to apply the term "certified" to any milk which does not comply with the regular standard which rests upon the semi-annual tuberculin test of cows; the limitation of bacteria content in milk to 10,000 per cubic centimetre from June to September, both inclusive, and not more than 5,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre from October to May, both inclusive; freedom from blood, pus or disease producing organisms and from disagreeable odor or taste. The milk shall also have undergone no pasteurization nor sterilization and must be free from chemical preservatives. It shall be cooled to 45 degrees Fahrenheit or under, within one-half hour after milking, and kept at that temperature until delivered to the consumer. It shall contain 12 to 13 per cent. of milk solids, of

which at least 3½ per cent. is butter fat. It shall be from a farm, the herd of which is inspected monthly by an authorized veterinarian and the employees of which are examined monthly by an authorized physician.

The Act further directs that it shall be unlawful to apply the word "pasteurized" to any milk unless all portions have been subjected to the prescribed pasteurizing process. This section is to be enforced after July 1st, 1911.

It will thus be seen that the Ontario Milk Act covers the ground fully and, if enforced, will be of the utmost value to the entire province. The limitation of the use of the words "certified" and "pasteurized" is a wise procedure, and the authority given municipalities to establish and maintain milk depots for the purpose of supplying pure milk to infants, is an excellent idea. It will be interesting to note what effect the latter regulation will have if complied with, on the infant mortality of Ontario.

Altogether, we believe this public health work of the Ontario Legislature bespeaks careful consideration of matters involved, and if nothing else had been done during the session just closed, the province is herein well repaid.

Inter Alia.

The arraignment, in the Dominion House on the thirtieth of last month, of Ottawa, by E. A. Lewis, M.P., as a place overrun with typhoid; abounding in small-pox and other diseases; lacking in drinkable water and eatable meat; without a sanitary system, proper fire escapes or inspection of public buildings—may be considered sweeping, yet appears in part a repetition of the late report of the Chief Medical Health Officer for Ontario.

It will be remembered that Dr. McCullough said in this report that "In view of the present conditions and the oft-repeated warnings given this city, which are now on record in the office of the Provincial Board of Health, I have no hesitation in affirming that the responsibility for the present epidemic is upon the authorities of Ottawa. Theirs is the experience of scores of places which cannot be induced to spend money for the protection of human lives until they receive such a lesson as your city is now experiencing."