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CANADA'S GREATEST NEED just now is population. A "Vigorous Immigration Policy" is advised and urged upon the Government. A desirable policy to practice, doubtless, providing discretion and vigilance be exercised, with the vigor, in the selection of the immigrants. It is not simply men and women that are needed, but a good class of men and women. Not of those (of which there are already too many, even here in the capital, who leave other countries for their neighbors' good, but those who will help to improve, and not be a detriment to, the country—at least healthy, vigorous men and women, and free from marked family or hereditary taint, mental physical or moral.

BUT FIRST OF ALL, would it not be well to make special efforts to save or prolong the life of the population now in the country? Thirty thousand human beings, at the lowest calculation, have died in Canada every year during the last ten years, or three hundred thousand in the decade (nearly as large a number as the increase of population in that period in both Ontario and Quebec), who would not have died had there been a reasonable compliance on the part of the masses of the people with the rules of health. There were not less probably than 100,000 deaths every year on an average in Canada during the decade, or a rate of twenty per thousand of population, and the most eminent practical sanitarians estimate that at least one-third of the present average mortality could be prevented by the practical application of sanitary or preventive measures in accordance with our present knowledge of sanitary science. The vast saving of life in England during the last decade or two is well known. Surely to prevent this enormous sacrifice of human life in Canada—sacrificed mainly from want of knowledge of the simplest rules of health—is a more worthy object at this time than any other which can engage the attention of Ministers of State.

MINISTERS OF STATE cannot escape the responsibility of the loss of thirty thousand (or even five thousand) human lives in Canada every year from preventable diseases, and without making any special effort to prevent the loss, by placing all the responsibility upon the provinces, or continuing to leave it upon the provinces after it had been cast there. If half as much effort had been made and half as much money spent on behalf of the public health that has been devoted to immigration, it is probable that more lives would have been saved amongst our own Canadian people than have been added to it by immigration. It is true "A Vigorous Immigration Policy" is being pushed by the press of the country, before the eyes of the Government, while but little is said about a "Life-Saving Policy." But, notwithstanding this, ministers are capable of judging as to what is wisest to be done for the good of the Canadian people—as to where their first duty lies. Will they continue to let this sacrifice of life go on without more special effort to prevent it? Or will they get the credit of making the first special Government effort for the promotion of the public health in Canada,—amongst human beings, as well as amongst cattle and hogs which are even now looked after in this respect?