

health forces into one system and supplementing these with other measures which as yet have not been included in spite of their being essential. This calls for a federal bureau or department adequately comprehensive and authoritative. This will not supplant nor render superfluous any existing provincial, municipal or other public health agency but rather will it supplement and co-ordinate these and create new or additional ones where necessary. National health laws and international health measures are rapidly coming into existence.

The increasing activity in the forces that make for health conservation is having a curious effect in an opposite direction. It is stimulating organized action among those "interests" which are in part the cause of ill-health and of those which fatten on it like a veritable vampire, namely the impure food manufacturers and the dishonorable patent medicine manufacturers. These have, it is said, formed an "International Organization of Ill Health"—but not under just this name—whose main purpose is to oppose progress in the conservation of health. I have no word to say against pure food manufacturers nor against those who market medicines under truthful claims and through legitimate channels.

There is still diverse opinion among bacteriologists as to the exact part (or even the general part) which *milk* plays in the tuberculosis chain. Koch claimed that tuberculosis is conveyed from cattle to man not at all frequently. On the other hand V. Behring thinks milk causes the infection of very many children. Certainly we can make no mistake in dealing with the matter from the latter view-point and regarding milk as responsible both directly and indirectly for a large percentage of tuberculosis: *directly*, it conveys the tubercle bacilli into human beings; *indirectly*, it is the cause of tuberculosis when (as is so often the case) it is responsible for acute infections or toxæmias which so lower the vitality that latent tuberculosis lights up—and the individual who has not latent tuberculosis at some time is probably rare.

No matter how important and vital a thing may be, when it becomes commonplace it is less and less paid heed to, hence