

cost of the tuberculosis work in Canada, with the exception of the \$10,000 voted to the Canadian Association, is borne by the provincial Governments. The prevention of this disease is a national question, which can only be solved by the earnest support of the whole country. The notification of tuberculosis was established by law in 1912.

CANCER.

It would be gratifying if the story in reference to cancer were as bright as that of tuberculosis. The facts in respect to cancer are, indeed, serious. Leaving out the consideration that the apparent increase may be accounted for to some extent by the improvement in diagnosis and more satisfactory death records, the fact remains that the mortality, according to statistical reports, has grown in the ten years from 65 to 77 per 100,000 of population. Hoffman, who has made an extensive study of this subject, points out that his investigations prove that cancer is increasing, and that it is a real menace to all civilized mankind. The figures show that upwards of 80,000 persons annually die of cancer in the United States. Taking the mortality for Ontario as a basis it is probable that the number of deaths yearly in Canada would be not less than 7,000. Cancer comes fourth in our table of mortality. At ages over forty it kills one in eight among women and one in fourteen among men. It is a disease of adult life, and at ages over forty is more destructive of life than either tuberculosis or pneumonia. Its insidious onset often occurs at the most useful period of life, when the father and mother are of the greatest service to society. It occurs when the man or woman, from their industry and thrift, might otherwise have had years of ease and comfort before them. Discovered in the earliest stages it is usually readily cured. Once established, the future is hopeless.

The laity know almost nothing about cancer; the medical profession knows little enough. The chief hope of controlling the disease seems to lie in a well-planned campaign of public education, embracing facts such as the following:—

(1) That cancer in the early stages gives rise to no pain or symptoms of ill-health.