

WHY THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTRIBUTE.

It goes without saying that the Dominion Government represents the nation. A nation may have ever so valuable assets in its forests, in its fisheries, in its mines, in its broad acres of fertile land, etc., but the most valuable asset a nation can have is its people; and this is eminently true of a nation like this Canada of ours, with its unparalleled natural resources awaiting development. The cry of the nation is "people, more people!" And successive governments have expended large amounts of money, and given large grants of mineral and fertile lands to induce people to come and live within our borders and assist in developing these rich resources.

Now statistics tell us that of all people who die between the ages of 15 and 60, no less than 37 out of every 100 die of tuberculosis—37 out of every 100 die at an age when their lives are of the most value to the nation, to the municipality, and to the home—37 out of every 100 die of a disease that is preventable and curable.

Now I submit that one of our people is at least of as much value to the nation as one immigrant, and I am sure that public opinion that approves of the expenditure to secure the latter will also endorse the granting of a moderate amount of money towards the isolation and treatment of our consumptive poor, and thus check the spread of the disease and save and prolong the lives of our people.

Again, a large proportion of the national revenue is obtained from a tariff duty. It is a pretty well established fact that the consumer pays the duty, therefore it is not unreasonable that a portion of the revenue thus contributed by the people should be returned to them. I used to protect the people from the spread of tuberculosis. Again, a considerable amount of revenue is derived from the liquor traffic. Now everyone will admit that the excessive use of intoxicating liquor lowers the vitality of the system, produces poverty, and thus predisposes the victim to the development of tuberculosis; is it unreasonable then to ask that a portion of the revenue thus obtained be applied to the care of the consumptive poor?

WHY THE PROVINCE SHOULD AID.

The provinces should aid in the first place because they have the power which was delegated to them by the British North America Act, and secondly, because they have the money. There was a time, perhaps, when the provinces might justly claim that their income was fixed, and the growing demands of the existing charities left no money for the isolation and treatment of the consumptive poor. However, in recent years a new source of revenue has been created by legislation, and a large amount is now received from the succession tax. It is claimed that the imposition of this tax has diverted from charities large amounts in the form of bequests,