

demanding, on the one hand, the exclusion of oriental labor, and on the other, its admission.

But whatever may be the commercial rivalries to be met and whatever the delicate international questions to be adjusted and rights to be maintained, public opinion in all the countries represented in this Association is at one as to the necessity for protecting this continent, not only from the acute contagious diseases dealt with by our quarantine laws, but also from those more insidious and chronic diseases especially dependent upon the social and moral conditions which are so intimately related to the industrial status and national prosperity of any people.

The laws of both the United States and Canada absolutely exclude the insane, the epileptic, the feeble-minded, the criminal and the pauper, and only conditionally admit those who may be partially disabled or temporarily affected with a minor infectious disease.

Both countries have gone further and are exercising the right of compulsory deportation within two or three years of any person who may become an inmate of either an asylum, a charitable institution or a prison.

Hence it appears evident that legislation cannot go further in regulating this alien immigration unless it advanced to the point of exclusion, and this for many reasons will be found, as it has been found in the United States, impracticable. Since then the situation is one created by the very force of things, it becomes essentially the duty of state and municipal authorities to measure the problem with its many factors, and to realize not, only its magnitude, but also to determine what comprehensive and well considered legislation will be possible for limiting the evils of a sanitary, social and moral character growing out of this enormous immigration. Although this Association has been accustomed to deal with problems belonging rather to physical than to social science, yet inasmuch as sanitary science, in its older and larger meaning, includes, not only those physical sciences dealing directly with public health, but further with those other sciences which enter into the study of social and economic conditions, it must be apparent that the members of this Association can very properly follow the example of the founders of the science of public health, Howard, Franklin, Wilberforce, Rumford, Chadwick, Simon, Bowditch and others, and realize what they ought and must do if they will fulfill the dreams of its founders, widen the scope of their studies, enlarge their horizon until they view public health work, not alone as a means of preventing contagious diseases, supplying good water and disposing of sewage properly, but further of dealing with those