

powers and the operations carried on in the mines and the forests have increased their wealth in a phenomenal manner.

The mines of British Columbia are most promising.

The development of our fisheries, which constitute a great part of our national wealth, is an important matter. Announcement is made of the establishment of a new department, whose duty it will be to promote the interests of this valuable industry.

It is well recognized that no prosperity quite equals that created by man-power capital. The importance of preserving the lives of our people is increasingly appreciated. The establishment of health units in each county would be a great forward step in the cause of public health in Canada. The *Evenement* newspaper, of Quebec, recently demonstrated this necessity when it published the surprising results achieved under the operation of this system. Briefly stated, the system consists in the organization in each county of a medical board composed of a medical health officer, a sanitary inspector, two nurses and a secretary. This board is entrusted with the task of enforcing health laws, controlling outbreaks of contagious diseases, and carrying on an intensive educational campaign on all health matters.

Already, in Beauce county, where the system has been in operation now almost a year, thanks to the temporary assistance of the Rockefeller Institute, some wonderful results have been recorded. The infantile mortality rate has been considerably reduced. The death rate attributable to infectious diseases has shown a decrease of more than sixty-six per cent, compared with the death toll from the same causes the previous year, and the situation that still prevails in the neighbouring counties, where there are no health units. The Dominion Board of Health, composed of the chief medical health officers of each province, with Dr. Amyot, Deputy Minister of the Federal Health Department, an active and capable official, as chairman, strongly favours the organization of these health units as the most economical, expeditious and effective means to spread the knowledge that will result in stopping the waste of precious lives, so essential to our country. Financial co-operation of the Federal Government with the provinces and the municipalities can ensure the application of this highly important and much to be desired progressive measure.

Sane immigration is necessary, and one notes with pleasure that the new inspection system being carried out in certain parts of

Europe by our Canadian doctors, with the object of making a more careful selection of prospective immigrants and eliminating individuals who are undesirable from a physical and moral standpoint, is working efficiently.

One cannot repeat too often or urge too strongly that the type of citizens our country needs most are farmers who have made up their minds to seek their well-being in the tilling of the soil. We do not need day labourers, who come here to swell the ranks of the unemployed or displace our own people in industry. Every effort should be made to induce our rural citizenry to remain on the land, where they can lead a healthier and more profitable existence than they will find in the cities. Italy offers us an example of what may be achieved in this respect. Mussolini has decreed that farmers must continue to till their farms, and that no agriculturist may take up residence in a city unless he can prove that a position awaits him.

Here we have a demonstration of what can be accomplished by an energetic policy, and the wisdom of this great Italian statesman who has set himself the task of regenerating his country. He has added greatly to his renown by settling that long standing major problem known as the Roman question. He has restored to the Holy Father that complete independence which he requires in order to exercise freely his high and exalted function as chief of the Universal Church.

We note with pleasure that the Government intends developing still further means of communication within and without the country by helping our railway companies to construct branch lines and granting subsidies to certain shipping companies. We shall take the necessary steps to increase our trade development through the appointment of trade commissioners in various parts of the world where our country has been hitherto unrepresented. These posts offer splendid careers to the students of our high schools of commerce.

The appointment of ministers plenipotentiary marks an important era in our history. We shall henceforth be able to discuss questions directly with the representatives of other nations and conclude treaties. I may state that no appointment could have been greeted with more warm-hearted approval in France than that of our former colleague, the Hon. Philippe Roy, who has filled with honour during a long term of years the post of High Commissioner. He has by his tact and talents won the consideration and esteem of the most eminent men in the country in which he is serving as our accredited representative. The