

by no means all, of the conditions which do not receive the attention due them from a sanitary standpoint, but I will desist from increasing their number.

During the past year a conference of great hygienic importance to Canada was held at Ottawa. I refer to the Tuberculosis Conference held in February under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor-General. This conference with its organizations for diffusing a knowledge of this dread disease among the people is a great step in advance. Tuberculosis carries off more than twice as many people in Ontario as do all the other contagious diseases and an active propaganda is needed to check its further spread. The necessity of some measure of isolation and of strict disinfection of sputum, also the value of sanatoria for early cases and the necessity of proper hospitals for treatment of advanced cases cannot be too fully insisted on. We are advancing somewhat from the days when Tuberculosis was looked upon as an hereditary disease mainly, and so thought it simply what was to be expected when one member of a family after another was stricken down. We now see it is not so much the hereditary taint as the house infection and the constant exposure to this infection that is the most important factor in family tuberculosis.

At the last session of the Dominion Parliament a bill to amend the Animal Contagious Diseases Act was brought in and passed the House of Commons but was held over by the Senate. This bill conferred on the Minister of Agriculture authority to exempt in certain cases the skin, hoof and horns of an animal affected with a contagious disease where these could be used without spreading the infection, and also provides for the amendment of the clause dealing with the use of the flesh of the animal itself. This bill has good and evil features. No doubt in some animal diseases the skin, hoof and even the meat might be used without danger, but the bill confers too wide discretionary powers on the Minister and it would be far preferable for the diseases to be specified in the bill and such bill be submitted to inspection of a committee of medical officers before it becomes law. And not even then till we have more efficient means of veterinary inspection than exist at present in this province.