

there would be a still greater improvement in our factories and work-shops, and the public would be getting a better service without any additional expenditure of money.

Before concluding, one other reference will be made, and that relates to the question of immigration, and the housing of the foreign immigrant population. We want immigrants, but there should be some provincial oversight of the physical and mental condition of those who seek a home in this province, other than that established by the Dominion Government, for in case of illness, especially of a chronic nature, they too often become a burden upon the province, in proof of which I would quote the statement of Dr. C. K. Clarke, Superintendent of the Kingston Hospital, who says: "Kingston is, as you know, a long-settled district, unaffected to any extent by immigration, and yet within the last ten years the government has had to contribute no less than \$72,875.83 for the maintenance of defective immigrants, who would not have been permitted to obtain a foothold here if satisfactory alien laws had been in force. There were sixty-three of these defectives, seventeen of whom still remain with us." The problem, too, of the housing of this foreign element, is one that requires attention, for it is manifestly wrong, both on sanitary, economic and social reasons, that twenty or thirty should live in a house capable of only holding a family of six or eight; these things should not be, and they can best be considered and dealt with under a minister having for his especial care the *health* of the people, health which is the real wealth, unseen but felt, and without which the accumulated wealth of the multi-millionaire is as nothing.

In conclusion, it may be advanced that the investment of five millions of capital, the expenditure of more than a million and a quarter of dollars annually, with a revenue of more than one hundred thousand dollars, and the supervision directly and indirectly of more than one thousand persons, is a branch of a business or public service requiring a large amount of professional skill and executive ability, one, too, in which the work will increase rather than decrease—very strong grounds upon which to base a plea for a Provincial Minister of Health.