

from their fellow practitioners or the public the encouragement and assistance they deserve? Notwithstanding this apathy there are not wanting evidences that the trend of public opinion as manifested through our representatives in parliament is in the direction of a recognition of the necessity for definite action to promote this very important branch of the public service.

It has always been a puzzle to me whether our legislators should lead public opinion or whether public opinion should lead our legislators. One thing, however, is certain, that when public opinion demands reform of any kind our legislators must bow to the mandate of the people. The logical inference then is; let the profession educate the people and let the people educate their representatives, and let the representatives give us legislation.

The great desideratum in this province as in other provinces is adequate funds for putting into practical effect regulations and laws already on our Statute Books. But we have no right to demand legislation involving the expenditure of public money unless the people are prepared to endorse such legislation. The medical profession are a long suffering profession. We devote a large portion of our time to gratuitous work. And although we are always ready to respond to the call of charity there is a limit to our forbearance. Is it fair then after we have spent much time in devising sanitary measures which are primarily for the public good to ask us to do municipal or departmental work for nothing? Boards of Health, Sanitary Inspectors and other officers whose duties are not only responsible but sometimes onerous are entitled to remuneration for their services. A healthy public sentiment on this aspect of the case would secure for us legislative and municipal recognition.

We are not unmindful of the fact that our influence and representation in this direction are not without some effect. It is gratifying to know that our federal and local authorities are awakening to the importance of this branch of the public service. This is evidenced by the fact that the authorities at Ottawa last year, sent a delegate—one of the leading members of the profession in this province to the Congress on Tuberculosis which met in Berlin. Dr. Farrel's report of that convention has been circulated among the members of the profession and others. It is a succinct résumé of the proceedings of that convention and their conclusions on the subject of tuberculosis; and this society could not better contribute to enlighten public opinion on this subject than by causing copies of this report to be more generally distributed among the people.

We hail also with pleasure the Act of our Local Legislature by which they have appropriated a sum of money for the erection and maintenance of a Sanitarium for tuberculous patients—also for sanitary inspection in the various municipalities of the province. This latter will help pay the