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*Hygiene and Sanitation—Domestic, Municipal, National, and International.*

BY

F. MONTIZAMBERT, I.S.O., M.D., F.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.C.L.

This meeting marks a distinct advance, and the commencement of a new era, in the history of the Canadian Medical Association. The adoption last year of our new constitution—which comes into force to-day—has raised us to the status of a national body. It seems, therefore, eminently fitting that our first annual meeting under the new constitution should be held in the national capital, and under the presidency of a medical man holding as an officer of the Federal Government what may be called a national position.

But in this connexion, let me say here, that in addressing you to-night I speak not as a Government official, but as an individual member of this association.

As you know full well, our profoundest feelings are often the most difficult to express. I shall limit myself to saying that, in the presence of this assembly of those who have come from the north, the south, the east and the west of this great country of ours, bringing with them to grace this meeting at the capital of the nation varied and priceless knowledge, how to increase the duration and value of human life, and elevate humanity to the highest standard of physical, mental and moral perfection,—one may well feel many misgivings as to one's ability to meet the full measure of your reasonable requirements.

There have been gods and goddesses of disease and of medicine from very ancient days. Back in the far-away times of the first Chaldean Empire, some five thousand years ago, there was a fever-god, a plague-god, and even a headache-god; and to overcome their evil influence the intervention and good offices were required of Bel-Merodach, the