

Mrs. A. J. Peterson of Elm Street underwent a delicate operation at the city hospital this morning. She is resting easily this afternoon, and according to her medical adviser, Dr. H. Johnson Smith, unless unforeseen complications develop should be on the road to recovery soon. The operation was very successful.—*Brooklyn Life*.

THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE.

The National Conservation Congress, meeting at Indianapolis in October, will take up as this year's programme the conservation of the world's greatest resource, human life. With the present population of the United States, it is estimated that there are always more than three million persons on the sick list. The loss to the country in earnings is more than \$500,000,000 a year. Medical attendance, medicine, nursing, etc., is estimated to account for a sum almost as great each year.

Perhaps a billion dollars would not cover the annual cost of illness in the United States and the relative cost per head would be about the same in this country. The point to be noted is that by far the major part of the diseases are avoidable, and that the economic loss to the country is, to that extent, also avoidable. This is the opinion given by men most competent to judge after years of investigation.

It is strange that the popular idea of conservation is associated with timber, fisheries, soil and every kind of natural wealth except human life. The Canadian Commission on Conservation has fallen into no such error for, from the beginning, it has held an organized section dealing with public health problems, and some of its most lasting work has been in this department.

ADVICE IN PAMPHLETS BY BOARD OF HEALTH.

"Never exploit the baby as an attraction for friends and relatives."

This is only one of many wise counsels in a booklet entitled, "A Little Talk About the Baby," prepared by Dr. Helen MacMurchy and published by the Provincial Health Department. And the book is published in the interests of the baby, not of the friends and relatives. It is intended for general distribution so as to educate the mothers of Ontario how to bring up children worthy of the Province.

"Sewage Disposal for Residences," "Mosquitoes and How to Prevent Them," and "Facts About Flies," are other publications by the Department intended to assist general education in matters of public health.