

## MR DOWNEY'S BILL RE TUBERCULOSIS.

We regret that Mr. Downey was compelled for the fourth time to withdraw his bill looking towards the lessening of the ravages of tuberculosis; but we are glad also to record the statement that he declared he would introduce it again next session. We wish him every success.

If there be any disease more than another that demands every step to be taken to restrain it, it is surely tuberculosis. No disease causes so much sickness and suffering, and is the agent of so many deaths as this one. We should not stand idly by and allow it to have its own way. The disease can be prevented, and it is our duty to prevent it. Those arguments that reporting the cases, and isolating the advanced and dangerous ones would cause hardships to some, should not be allowed to overpower the other and far more important arguments that it is only by such means that the disease can be checked.

It must be admitted that when the disease makes such headway in the lungs as to admit of easy diagnosis, the prospects of cure are rather remote. There are many cases of tuberculosis of the lungs that have undergone self cure, but these cases were very localized, and indeed, in most cases never suspected. The cry of the hour is prevention.

One of the merits of notification is that it enables the proper authorities to send literature and instructions to those who are afflicted. It may be well in many instances to send an experienced nurse to visit these persons and give them personal directions. The vast majority of those who are afflicted with tuberculosis are very careless, and must be constantly reminded of the urgent necessity for the taking of every precaution to prevent the infecting of others.

While it is settled that the bovine tuberculosis may infect man, yet it remains true that the great source for the spread of the disease is the bacilli as they come from a human being. "Man to man the world over" is the real explanation of the disease.

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THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The meeting this year will be in Toronto. The meeting last year was in Hamilton, and it was admitted by all that it was one of the best in the Association's history. The one this year in Toronto should be even better. Already an excellent programme has been arranged. The leading addresses and papers will come up to the expected standard.

There will be the usual social side to the gathering. This has now come to be recognized as an important part of all such gatherings.