

NOTES AND NEWS.

CONFERENCE ON VENEREAL DISEASES, OTTAWA, MAY 29th-30th, 1919.

A FURTHER step towards the organization of the social programme for Canada was taken when representatives of the different provinces met in Ottawa at the call of the Acting Premier, Sir Thomas White, to discuss further the control of venereal diseases. Among those present were:

Dr. C. K. Clarke, Medical Director of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

Dr. P. H. Bryce, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Immigration, Ottawa.

Dr. A. H. Desloges, Superintendent of the Insane Asylums of the Province of Quebec.

Dr. W. H. Hattie, Provincial Health Officer, Halifax.

Dr. J. D. Pagé, Chief Medical Officer, Port of Quebec.

Hon. N. W. Rowell.

Hon. William F. Roberts, Minister of Health, New Brunswick.

Capt. Gordon Bates, Toronto.

Dr. Arthur Simard, President, Superior Board of Health, Quebec.

A long discussion took place on the question of raising the embargo on the preparations of salvarsan and other remedies for the treatment of syphilis. As a result of this discussion it was decided by the Committee that the Government be asked to raise all restriction on the importation and manufacture of these drugs in Canada. A committee was appointed to interview the Hon. R. Rowell on the question of the Federal Government granting each province financial assistance in combating the problem of venereal disease.

The Conference appointed three committees, first was to look after the question of the formation of the National Organization, which Organization would attack the problem of venereal disease from the national standpoint. The second committee was appointed to look after relations between the different provinces and the Federal Government. The third committee was to co-ordinate and help along the different social agencies now existing in Canada.

The National Committee, composed of twenty-one members, should be of great service to the new Minister of Public Health. Dr. J. D. Pagé, of Quebec, was appointed temporary chairman of this Committee.

As a result of this conference, the following objects were attained:

1st.—Promise of financial assistance from the Federal Government.