

secretary in the person of Dr. Peter H. Bryce was appointed. He continued in office until the year 1904, when he resigned to become Chief Medical Inspector to the Department of the Interior and Indian Affairs at Ottawa.

It will be remembered that the enactment of 1873 permitted the appointment of local health committees, but up to 1882 only fifty of these committees have been appointed.

The first meeting of the Provincial Board of Health was held in Toronto on *May 9th, 1882*. The first chairman was Dr. Wm. Oldright, and the other members were Dr. C. W. Covernton, Dr. J. Hall, Dr. J. J. Cassidy, Dr. F. Rae, Dr. H. P. Yeomans, and Dr. P. H. Bryce, Secretary.

The first annual report was published in 1882-3. From the earliest days the reports of the Board are filled with interesting material showing that the members of the Board were fully alive to their duties. In November, 1882, Principal John Galbraith, C.E., of the School of Applied Science, was appointed to succeed Dr. J. Hall, who had resigned. Of the early members of the Board the sole survivor is Dr. Peter H. Bryce.

The Premier of the day, Mr. (afterwards Sir) Oliver Mowat, speaking to Dr. Bryce (the first Secretary of the Provincial Board) said: "We have passed this health legislation but have little knowledge of just what there is to do, or of its extent, but in any case, Dr. Bryce, its success will wholly depend upon your energies." These words were spoken thirty-eight years ago, and as Dr. Bryce says: "The comparison of the grant of \$4,000 in 1882 for the payment of the half-time Secretary of the Board and for travelling and other expenses with the half million or more voted in 1920, will serve to illustrate the evolution of Public Health as a part of the social activities of a progressive modern community."

The original Act passed in 1882 had in addition to the establishment of the Board the following objects:—

- (1) Collection and dissemination of sanitary information.
- (2) Health legislation.
- (3) Investigation of the causes of diseases.
- (4) Dealing with outbreaks of disease.
- (5) Dealing with food and drink supplies.