

remedy this very well in the present circumstances. This but affords evidence of what I stated in a former paper, that it would be better for the public health if there were but one centralized Sanitary authority for the whole civilized world.

Then again, for the investigation of causes and sources of disease—milk and water supplies, foods, animal diseases, etc., a hygienic laboratory is indispensable. One such would be quite enough for the Dominion and could so be made much more efficient than could several Provincial ones, and at much less cost to the people.

Furthermore, for efficient Sanitary progress it is essential that the people be educated up to a sense of the desirability and value of attending well to Sanitary measures. With one hand, authorities must educate, and with the other, gently force the negligent to keep up in accordance with their knowledge; or in other words, the authorities must make judicious health laws and then require the people, by compulsion if necessary, but by education first, to follow or keep these laws. In a large measure this education must obviously be accomplished by means of published periodical reports, weekly, monthly or quarterly, of the health statistics which have been collected and compiled. As already stated, these can only be satisfactorily collected by and for the Dominion as a whole. Any further education is usually accomplished by means of the free distribution of brief pamphlets or leaflets containing directions for avoiding and preventing certain infectious diseases; or on disinfection in general, &c., or by posting up in public places of certain suggestions, rules and regulations. Now all this can be done with much less cost to the people by one central body than by several provincial bodies.

Port quarantines have been kept under the authority of the Federal Government. So it appears have been measures for the suppression of diseases of animals. Was this because the spread of these diseases was regarded as of more consequence than the spread of more diseases of the human body? Certainly it

were better that all disease, of whatever sort, in man or animals, should be dealt with by the same authority.

Now can any man give a single reason why special legislation by the Federal Government for the better promotion of the public health in CANADA should be delayed from year to year? Surely it does not suffice to say that health legislation rests with the provinces. It cannot be possible that it is entirely or irremediably so. Better, I repeat, that the postal service, or the administration of justice, or even the customs, were under provincial authority than that matters relating to the public health were entirely in that way.

The commencement of a foundation for some practical public health work was made five or six years ago by the Federal Government, in providing for the collection of mortuary statistics from the principal cities and towns in the Dominion. These might with but little difficulty be made sufficiently accurate—as accurate as any statistics can be, and be extended to more centres; with the provision at the same time for reporting at short periods of the existence of any epidemic, or cases of outbreak of infectious disease. On an early occasion I should like to endeavour to show that this could be carried out with comparatively little cost, and that this would be practically all that need be demanded in the way of Health Statistics in the interest of the public health in this new and constantly developing country for a long time to come.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IN SERBIA.

I will close this paper by noting the condition of public health legislation and service in Serbia, a young member of the community of nations; from the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal:

In Serbia, there is a "general sanitary council" of seven doctors, constituting a scientific consulting body for the State; its duty is to study and regulate measures adopted by the "sanitary department", whose functions are executive. The "sanitary department" is under the authority of a surgeon-general with an inspector-in-chief, secretary, two chemists, and a vet-