

"Satisfactory results have attended the efforts of the Department of Health to prevent the spread of communicable disease. The improvement of conditions in industrial plants is proving a valuable contribution to the physical welfare of the workers. By means of a dental car, the department has brought this essential service within the reach of remote pioneers of Northern Ontario. Arrangements have been made for a substantial increase in the accommodation for consumptives, which was urgently needed. A thorough investigation of the methods of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer was made by the Commission appointed for that purpose, and a report is expected at an early date.

"Extensions of the King's Highways during the year afforded much employment and added nearly 200 miles to the system. Payments by the Province to the municipalities for road purposes of nearly \$7,000,000 helped materially to lighten the burden of taxation. The law respecting financial responsibility and accident reporting has been proved by experience to have a wholesome effect.

"Special demands were made upon the Department of Labor, both in finding opportunities for employment and in helping to relieve municipalities of the burden of caring for floating population. Consideration was given to the operation of the Apprenticeship Act, to which certain improvements will be proposed. Amendments to the Factory Act and the Mechanics' Lien Act are in contemplation, as well as legislation to make the Industrial Disputes Act of the Dominion operative in Ontario.

"Efforts are being made by the

Department of Public Welfare to give leadership to local work by the organization of county units of welfare. It is hoped that this movement will bring about co-operation between social welfare agencies in each county in the form of a Public Welfare Association.

"Improvements in the administration and discipline of reformatories and penal institutions has been effected, including a larger measure of segregation of first offenders from habitual criminals. Vocational training and industrial activities were increased in the reformatories and industrial farms. It is expected that the reorganization of the Board of Parole will result in widening the scope of its activities in the direction of re-establishing discharged prisoners as good citizens.

"While the depression throughout the past year had the effect of curtailing revenue in some directions, it also operated to increase the demands on the Government for assistance. Yet under these abnormal conditions the ordinary revenues have not fallen far short of the amount necessary to meet ordinary expenditures. The high standard of Ontario's financial credit is reflected in the result of the recent loan."