

Tuberculosis Prevention

The Government program for the prevention of tuberculosis has been hampered because of the fact that the municipalities have delayed in sending active cases of tuberculosis into sanatoria on account of the cost involved. These cases have remained months and sometimes years in the community, infecting others and thus multiplying the problem. The seriousness of this situation is apparent when one realizes that of 1,200 cases dying of tuberculosis in the Province in the year 1936, only 640 or 53 per cent had received sanatorium treatment. In order to insure prompt admission to hospital, it is proposed that the Provincial Government assume the cost of sanatorium treatment, previously borne by the municipality, and also provide free sanatorium treatment for those persons, who, while not actually indigent, could not hope to pay the costs of hospital care for any length of time. Provision has been made in the Estimates for an additional expenditure of \$1,000,000, to meet this need. Those persons whose economic situation leaves no doubt as to their ability to meet the costs of treatment, will still be expected to do so.

By adopting these measures this Government hopes to eradicate the menace of tuberculosis from the Province of Ontario.

During the present year the carefully planned program of the extension of suitable mental hospital accommodation will have reached the point where some 1,400 beds will be available at the new hospital near St. Thomas and a children's unit of 400 beds will be opened at the Ontario Hospital, Woodstock. This will permit the transfer of a number of epileptic patients from Orillia, thus relieving some of the pressure on that institution. Plans are going forward for the construction of a new hospital at Brampton for mentally ill patients who are also suffering from tuberculosis. This, the first hospital of its kind on this continent, will make it possible to remove from other mental hospitals of the Province those who are a source of danger to their fellow-patients and the staff.

Outlines Policy

In determining our policy for the ensuing year, we have extended our activities in three main departments of government—Agriculture, Education and Health, all of which deal with the social and economic well-being of the citizens of our Province.

In view of the fact that this Government has again been able to balance its budget, the question arises as to why further assistance has not been provided. We might point out, however, that in these three departments the increased expenditures will probably equal our budgetary surplus. But apart from that entirely, we must recognize the fact that at this very time the Royal Commission, headed by Chief Justice Rowell, is investigating Dominion and Provincial relations, with respect to taxation and associated economic problems, and until such time as the findings of this Commission are made known to the respective jurisdictions and dealt with, it is not deemed expedient to attempt to break any new ground with regard to the financial relationship between the Province and the municipalities, although it is our considered judgment and firm intention that every assist-

ance possible should be given to our municipalities, so as to enable them in turn to pass on the benefits to the taxpayers, who are owners of real property, in order that even greater stimulation may be given to the building industries. This important industry has lagged, because of unsound economic policies followed in Canada, and in my opinion we will not see a return of a prosperity which will be enduring and fundamentally sound until the building trades are revived.

Policies Unchanged

In order to assure you that the policies of this Government do not change from year to year, I crave your permission to repeat now the concluding paragraph of the Budget Speech of a year ago, when I said something that is just as applicable today, after another year under Liberal rule, and when I set before you an ideal which I maintain is worthy of being written in enduring bronze and set up where every citizen of this great Province may read:

"It is my considered opinion that this Government has not reached the pinnacle of its achievement; rather is it in its early stages, and I am persuaded that by continuing to follow sound policies and to give honest government we shall carry the people of this country on to the great destiny that is the heritage of the sturdy offspring of our noble forefathers. I hope that we can re- inculcate in our minds and hearts their hope, faith, courage and vision, and accordingly, Mr. Speaker, may I urge that we turn our faces, not toward the shadows, but toward the sun, and view in that direction a brighter and happier day for this great land."

Export Problems

Our continuance in the export markets of the world for live stock and live stock products is going to depend very largely on three factors: First, quality; second, health, and third, continued supply.

Quality is most important in connection with our export of bacon, and to a lesser degree with the export of live cattle, particularly dairy

cows for the United States or England.

At present our bacon in Great Britain, as compared with Irish or Danish, is discounted in price. We have a Canadian quota of 280,000,000 pounds annually, and last year we shipped 190,000,000 pounds, and approximately 50 per cent of this came from the Province of Ontario.

The United States is a ready purchaser of dairy cows provided the import health regulations are met. All cows must come from fully accredited herds and must have passed the test for Bang's disease.

The authorities in Great Britain, realizing that they are losing \$70,-

000,000 per year through animal diseases, are instituting measures for cleaning up and replacements will have to come from outside. Ontario cattle are satisfactory, provided they will pass the necessary tests for health.

T.B.-free areas will be definitely extended. Losses from Bang's disease, mastitis, parasites in sheep and swine and warbles in cattle will be lessened through intensive research and experimental work in the institutions and upon farms.

The establishment of an Animal Nutrition Laboratory at the Ontario Agricultural College will forestall, through careful investigations, animal deficiency problems, and thereby prevent tremendous losses now being experienced because proper maintenance and health are necessary to maximum production.

Cheese is a standard export product; quality is essential. Competition is forcing a high standard. The causes of the manufacture of any cheese lower than the standard will be through instructors, ascertained and corrected.

Our potatoes, through lack of attention in production and marketing, have gradually lost favor with the Ontario housewives. A campaign is under way, and will be augmented by increased votes, to induce the Ontario grower to use better seed, to fertilize properly, to spray thoroughly, and to market on a proper basis, or, in other words, to produce a good article and guarantee it to the consumer.

Fruit and vegetable producers, as per their requests, will receive assistance in production and marketing from competent men stationed in well-defined areas throughout the Province. This service will be

directed largely to intra-Provincial marketing.

The interpretation and application of the research and experimental results obtained at our educational institutions to practical agriculture still remain the major problem. This work will be emphasized and definitely strengthened.

Co-operative effort as a means of education, production and marketing is at last recognized in Canada as one of the most effective means of improving the conditions of the farmer. A strong, well-managed branch, equipped to render a definite service to any section or group of people is now under consideration.

Highway Investment

The policy of the Department of Highways will be to continue with the same aggressiveness that has applied in the past. We intend to budget for this purpose the sum of \$14,000,000.

Added safety on highways will continue to be our slogan. Engineers will be instructed to exercise the greatest possible care in all work they undertake, satisfying themselves that the finished road is as nearly foolproof as possible.

Special consideration will be given to completing gaps in the highway system. Typical of this is the Toronto-Hamilton Middle Road, which must be carried in to the City of Toronto in such a way that congestion will not apply whether on the road itself or in the city at points where contacts will be made.

We are placing in the estimates the sum of \$4,750,000 for hospital construction, this amount being required to complete the equipment in the new Mental Hospital at St. Thomas and to continue the building operations at Brampton, Woodstock, Port Arthur and New Toronto.