

REPORT

Of Dr. C. J. Fagan, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, who attended the Sanatorium Convention held at Ottawa on 14th February, 1901.

D. M. EBERTS,
Attorney-General.

Attorney-General's Department,
23rd March, 1901.

The Honourable D. M. Eberts,
Attorney-General.

SIR,—In accordance with instructions, I attended the conference on tuberculosis, held at Ottawa on February 14th, 1901, and following days.

Over three hundred delegates were present, consisting of representatives from every Province in the Dominion, eminent medical men as well as prominent business and public men. There were also delegates from scientific societies and municipal corporations.

His Excellency the Governor-General presided, and explained the objects of the meeting, which briefly were as follows:—

- 1st. The formation of a society for the prevention of tuberculosis, on lines similar to societies already formed in Great Britain and other countries.
- 2nd. To point out and explain to the people of Canada the urgent necessity of combatting the danger which besets them.
- 3rd. To show that it is the duty of every government, municipality and individual to adopt organised methods for lessening the spread of a disease which is causing, directly or indirectly, probably one-fifth of the total deaths in the Dominion.

In conformity with these suggestions a society has been formed. The Duke of Cornwall will be asked to become Patron. The Governor-General is Honorary President; Sir James Grant, President; and the Lieutenant-Governors of the different Provinces are Vice-Presidents.

The duties of this Society are—

- (a.) The publication of literature—technical and popular—on tuberculosis.
- (b.) The encouragement of the formation of anti-tuberculosis societies in town and rural municipalities.
- (c.) The pointing out of the need and advantages of sanatoria.
- (d.) Assisting and obtaining the co-operation of local governments, municipalities, philanthropic and charitable organisations and individuals towards the construction and maintenance of consumption sanatoria.

All of these were fully discussed, and resolutions dealing with them were adopted. A copy of most of the resolutions passed is appended hereto.

FACTS ELICITED.

In considering the gross outcome of the meeting, it appears to me the greatest stress was laid on the want of knowledge by the general public as to the danger of their surroundings. It was pointed out that there are very few families who have not, or have not had, some members, friend or relation affected with tuberculosis, and it was freely admitted that little or no precautions were taken to prevent infection, and very little done towards effecting cures.

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