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SPREAD OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Governmental Assistance Necessary to Combat the Dread Destroyer

By John W. Daniel, M. D.

Among the many great advances which have been made in recent years in medical and surgical science, there is none, probably which is fraught with greater interest to the world, than that which has been made in our knowledge of tuberculosis, its origin, its diagnosis, its history, its treatment and its eradication. When Prof. Koch in 1889 announced to the world that he had discovered the cause of tuberculosis to be an infinitesimally minute germ which he called the T. Bacillus, and which he conclusively proved must be present in every case of the disease the vast importance of the discovery was not immediately apparent to the popular mind. But that discovery was so important that it might almost be considered a proclamation that consumption

should be no more; and whether its disappearance be early or late will depend to a very great extent upon how soon those who are in charge of the governmental machinery of this country learn to appreciate their responsibility in the matter, and put into active operation those measures which are needed to effect this happy result.

It is perhaps hardly necessary to state to what extent tuberculosis is prevalent, the fact is only too well known, and it is not too much to say that there is scarcely a person living in this province who has not had to bemoan the loss of a relative or some near friend from this dreadful and remorseless disease.

It is computed that there are at least 8,000 deaths from consumption annually in Canada. The popula-