

is a communicable, preventable, and curable disease, the non-provision of proper means for separating the phthisical from the non-phthisical insane might almost be called criminal, and yet in only one of our Canadian institutions, Rockwood, is there any special arrangement for such segregation. In all the other hospitals the medical officers have to combat the plague as best they can by attention to cleanliness, disinfection, and the isolation of the affected as far as possible. So much, however, has been written on the subject of tuberculosis during the past few years that I shall not detain you with any detailed account of my own views on any of the points connected therewith, but content myself by saying that I doubt whether, owing to the rigor of our climate, the "tent treatment," so successfully practiced by Dr. A. E. Macdonald at the Manhattan State Hospital East, would be practicable with us during the winter months. Instead, I would favor the erection of a separate, isolated building to be used for tubercular cases only, one portion of the structure being set apart for suspected cases, another for those in whom the presence of the malady in an active state has been positively established. Such a building should be frame and constructed as inexpensively as possible, so that, if its destruction on account of infection seemed advisable, the loss would be slight.

An important problem confronts the superintendents of Canadian hospitals, as it does those of the United States, in the case of the discharge of friendless patients. This is the securing of homes and employment for them. Who of us but can call to mind cases where the discharge of patients, though fully warranted by their mental condition, has been delayed for weeks, even for months, because they had no friends who could or would take charge of them on their return to the world, no homes to go to, no employment awaiting them by which they could earn their bread? The average citizen seems to have a morbid dread of the poor unfortunate who has been insane, and utterly refuses to even think of hiring him, while his wife is equally resolute against engaging as a domestic any woman who has been an asylum inmate. To turn such persons adrift without means or help is virtually offering a premium for their return to the hospital, whereas, if given some slight assistance they might earn a fair living and not again become a charge on the public.