

CORRESPONDENCE.

MUNICIPAL SANATORIUM—TORONTO NEEDS ONE.

Editor of THE CANADA LANCET :

SIR,—I have been frequently asked this question : Is there need of a municipal sanatorium exclusively for our citizens suffering from consumption ? Unhesitatingly, I answer Yes !

The sanatorium at Muskoka is only for cases in the early stages of the disease, and is open to patients from all parts of the Dominion, and therefore has only limited room for Toronto, and, secondly, it is too far away to attract our consumptives in any considerable numbers, and thus inadequate to meet the needs of this city.

The so-called Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives in the advanced stages of the disease (near Weston), and open to all Canadians, is no doubt an attractive card for securing subscriptions from all parts of the Dominion.

In this city there are continuously at least 600 persons in the advanced stages of the disease, in this province about 5,000, and in the Dominion not less than 15,000.

Now, it is reasonable to believe that from the extensive advertising that is being done at least 5 per cent. of these 15,000 may direct their faces towards this city ; and that upon their arrival at said hospital will find the fifty to one hundred beds all occupied, and realize that they are within a ten-cent car fare of the great city whose name had been used to attract them.

Thus year after year consumptives from all parts of the Dominion will be dumped into this city and become an intolerable nuisance, instead of being cared for in a sanatorium in their own county municipality.

In 1897 a meeting was held at Calgary, Alberta, to take steps to inform the citizens of the Dominion that the Territory of Alberta was a favored place for consumptives. The news spread and many consumptives turned their faces towards Alberta.

Dr. Lifferty, of Calgary, who had favored this movement, in addressing the Canadian Medical Association at Winnipeg in 1901. warned the medical men of the east not to send their consumptives to Alberta, as there was no sanitarium accommodation, that the hospitals, hotels and boarding-houses would not take them in, and that their condition was deplorable.

This, together with the experience of Colorado, California and other states, should be warning enough to our citizens.

The burning question in Toronto to-day is, shall our citizens contribute \$25,000 so as to take advantage of the \$50,000 voted by the