

Speech of Mayor Coatsworth of Toronto

YOUR Excellency, your Honor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have few words to add to the very apt and appropriate addresses to which we have listened this afternoon with so much interest. When we remember that there is perhaps hardly a home in Toronto which has not been directly or indirectly touched with this white plague, you will understand that those who are in charge of the affairs of the City take a deep interest in any institution of this kind, and therefore we are glad to unite this afternoon in opening this King Edward Sanatorium and in expressing the hope that it may be as successful as the other institutions of the same kind that have been inaugurated heretofore. Let me just add a word in regard to the educational effect of institutions of this kind, and then I have done. Some two or three years ago, a fund was established, a small fund, contributed by a gentleman for the purpose of hiring a nurse in Toronto to go from house to house visiting those who had consumption, and giving them information as to how they should be treated and what they should do for the care of the patient. This fund ran out in the early part of the present year. The matter was brought to the attention of the Board of Control and of the City Council, and the nurse who had been employed in that service heretofore by private means was made an officer of the Medical Health Department, and that work will now be a part of the work of the City and maintained by that Department—so that there is no home in Toronto where poor people live or where any people live where they require information as to how the patient should be treated, as to how they should be isolated, or how they should be cared for, but this nurse can go and give them the necessary information. I hope now that this good work will go on. We are greatly interested in it, and Toronto has never been behindhand in contributing to the helpless and to the care of the sick and poor under her charge, and I feel assured that the work that has begun to-day will be well supported by the Municipality of the City of Toronto.

Three cheers were then given for the Governor-General, and the guests dispersed to inspect the buildings before departing.

