

## SOLDIERS AND TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis among soldiers fighting in France is not nearly so common as many folk imagine. Of the men who have been returned to Canada, or who have gone to military hospitals before leaving Canada, those affected with tuberculosis numbered 3,737. Sir James Loughheed, Chairman of the Military Hospitals Commission, declares that only about 10 per cent. of this number have come from the fighting fronts. Many have been returned from England and the rest are soldiers who have shown indications of the disease in the course of their Canadian training. In many cases men were passed for military service without any sign of the infection being present. Camp life in damp, wintry weather provided unfavorable conditions for any who might have had a bad "family history." The damp climate of England was also unsatisfactory for such soldiers.

So far, of the 3,700 men received by the military hospitals, 1,500 have been returned to civil life with the disease cured or arrested. In the latter case by care and regular open air life the possibility of a complete cure is great. When one considers the prevalence of tuberculosis among civilians surely it is an extraordinary thing that of over 200,000 men on military service in France and on other fronts the tubercular casualties are less than 400. It is an additional proof of the soundness of the modern theory, that life in the open air in all weathers is the best protection against pulmonary troubles even when that life may include labor of the most vigorous and exhausting character.

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## MEDICAL PREPARATIONS

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### NATURE'S COMBINATIONS VS. SYNTHETICS.

Drugs derived from plants as nearly in their natural combinations as possible meet nutritional conditions of the germ-plasm, which is not the case with synthetics. It would be strange indeed if such were not the case, as the latter act upon the system as foreign bodies, depressing and paralyzing the functions or setting up irritation until thrown off or eliminated if absorbed. They may have their uses, but are not tonic to neuron-tissue nor molecular upbuilders, as are natural plant drugs. Sanmetto is one of the products from plant elements wrought in the wonderful laboratory of Nature, which are assimilable and nourish while they heal, as opposed to the artificial elements wrought in the chemical factories, whose