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Keep "T.B." Suspects From Drafted Army

Western Medical Officers in H.M.C. Conference Urge Examination of Conscripts

A special conference of the medical officers of the Military Hospitals Commission, in charge of tuberculosis soldiers in the west, brought many prominent men into consultation at the H. C. headquarters in Ottawa, Sept. 7, and important questions relative to the care of the tuberculosis cases were discussed. Prominent among these men were:

Captain Olson, Balfour Sanatorium, British Columbia.
Captain J. B. Ritchie, Frank Sanatorium, Alberta.
Dr. L. G. Houle, Earl Grey Sanatorium, Moose Jaw.
Dr. D. A. Stewart, Ninette Sanatorium, Manitoba.
Dr. C. H. Vrooman, Tranquille Sanatorium, Kamloops.
Major John L. Todd, of the Pensions Board.

A resolution was passed urging the most careful examination of recruits for he drafted army, that no men with tendencies toward tuberculosis should be taken to become a burden to the country. It was pointed out that the care

of tuberculosis men was a great expense to the nation, and that the cost of an examination for T. B. which would eliminate all this expense, would be infinitesimal in comparison.

Christmas at Sanatorium.

It was decided to allow the men in the military sanatoria to have a vacation in which to return to their homes either before or after the holiday season, and to keep them at the sanatorium during Christmas week. While this may seem a hardship to the men who would naturally like to be with their families on Christmas, it is regarded as wise by the physicians. Parties and entertainments for the soldiers will undoubtedly be a big part of the festivities in every community, and the temptation of the men to overdo must be guarded against. A few days of such good times may so overtax a man as to set his recovery back many weeks.

Every effort will be made to make Christmas a happy season at the sanatoria. There will be decorations, visitors, parties in proportion to their strength, and all the Christmas menu trimmings. The move is in the best interest of the men, and it is felt that they will see it that way.

Keeping Tab on Ex-patients.

In the June conference of the eastern and central medical officers of the commission treating tuberculosis cases, it was recommended that specialists in T. B. be appointed in connection with every medical board for the examination of men suffering from tuberculosis, for the purpose of regulating pensions, etc. This has been found impossible

since there are not a sufficient number of specialists, except in the large centres, to carry on such a work. In view of this fact, Col. Alfred Thompson, medical superintendent of the commission suggested that some social service, the St. John Ambulance Association, the O. D. E., or the Victorian Order of Nurses be asked to take over the work of keeping in touch with the men for the first six months following their discharge. Such an order could do a great work in watching a man's progress and condition and directing him to the dispensary where the proper treatment would be given him in case he should need attention. It would be the visitor's duty to see that the men live under proper conditions, that they know where to go, and go, in case they need medical attention.

Captain J. R. Byers reported upon suggestions made by Major R. Tait MacKenzie on exercise for T. B. patients; fumigating plants for the sanatoria were discussed, and many other points of management arranged.

Dr. F. J. Shepherd of Montreal, president of the Association of Medical Officers Caring for T. B. Soldiers, presided.

"The poet says that 'Borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.'"

"Dunno about that, but it certainly seems to dull the edge of memory."

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY AT CAPITAL

Committee Named to Draw Up Constitution

Voice of Labor a Whisper

Must Speak in Louder Tones—Reforms Gained in Australia and England Held up as Examples

Ottawa, Oct. 10—A Labor party—as yet without name and without constitution—was organized when sixty-five representatives of the workers of the capital met, and decided that it was advisable to have a candidate in the field at the coming election.

After lengthy discussion of various points brought forward by the several speakers, the following were appointed members of a provisional committee to study the constitution of other similar bodies and decide upon a platform for the newly-launched organization: W. T. McDowell, chairman; T. Carroll, secretary; J. D. Robertson, treasurer; Peter Leckie, P. M. Draper, Fred Bliss and John Cameron.

The meeting was called by the labor representative committee, of which W. T. McDowell is chairman. This gentleman presided over the gathering. He said the Allied Trades and Labor Association had made a move in the direction in question two years ago, when a candidate was chosen to stand in the municipal election. His defeat resulted in the agitation dying down, and no further action was taken until six months ago, at which time it was decided to endeavor to revive it.

Too Long Silent.

Mr. McDowell cited the reforms the British and Australian Labor parties have been able to accomplish as an incentive to similar action in Canada, and said he thought Ottawa should take the lead in this respect, as the eyes of the entire dominion were turned upon the capital. The platform of the party, he thought, should be broad enough to take in all workers who believed in the emancipation of the class to which they belonged.

"The voice of labor has too long been silent," said the speaker. "We have asked, instead of demanding. We have been the recipients, instead of the donors."

He concluded by stating that it was proposed to call the organization the Independent Labor Party of Ottawa, on the understanding that "Independent" was to mean independent of either of the existing political parties.

Forget All "isms."

President J. C. Waters of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, was called to the platform, and spoke in favor of the proposal. Saying that he was prepared to forget all the mistakes of labor in the past, he urged that all "isms" should be forgotten, in order that the workers of the country gain representation in the dominion as well as the provincial legislatures. There was only one remedy for the present state of affairs, he asserted. That was to elect men, not politicians.

The speaker went on to say that each politician prided himself on the fact that he was either the supporter or opponent of a business administration.

"And that's the whole trouble," he said. "Business receives their first attention. What we want is men who will give human welfare their first attention. The successful man in business—the one who gets rich—is the one who gets more than he gives. This is nothing more nor less than robbery, and the government stands for it. A sneak thief is a gentleman as compared with some of our business men. The government



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stands for Mackenzie and Mann, and the profiteers."

Keep Away from Socialism.

Mr. McLaughlin, a representative of the telegraphers, said he thought he could get a hundred recruits for the movement, and that he thought the movement should include all workers, rather than trades unionists alone. He moved that the proposal to form an independent labor party be adopted, and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey.

Here arose a point which provoked much discussion. One present brought attention to the fact that the term "Independent Labor Party" was associated in the minds of all old countrymen with an organization which was out-and-out socialist, and he thought such an impression should not get abroad in Ottawa, as he understood that the purpose of the party was not of such a nature.

Finally it was moved by Mr. Bliss, seconded by J. D. Robertson, that a labor party be formed, and that a provisional committee be appointed to choose

a name and to draft a constitution, to be submitted at the next meeting. The motion was adopted, and the new labor party had its birth.

Among those present at the meeting was noticeable D. Marcell, who is expected to be a Liberal candidate in Ottawa at the coming election.

DIED IN THE WEST.

At his home in Halma, Minnesota, on September 19, Arthur W. Smith, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Smith, of Somerville, Mass., formerly of Fredericton, passed away. He was born in Upper Kingsclear in 1869. Besides his parents, he leaves a wife and five children, also one brother, Hubert Smith, of Fort Fairfield, Maine, and four sisters, Mrs. Nettie Currie and Miss Pearl Smith of Somerville, Mass., Mrs. Frank Connolly of Great Falls, Montana, and Mrs. Thomas Blaine of Bow Island, Alberta.

William Barnett, of Moncton, passed away on Sunday afternoon. He was born

in Hillsboro in 1861, but had lived in Moncton for the past ten years. He leaves a family of five children. The sons are Waldo, Miles and Emery, and the daughters are Viola and Leona.

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