

School Children All To Be Given Tuberculin Test

Medical Staff of Sanatorium to Utilize Christmas Seal Fund in Three Towns

The following article by Dr. W. C. Arnold is commended to all parents in the three Central Temiskaming towns: "Acting in co-operation with, and under authority of the local Board of Health, the medical staff of St. Mary's on the Lake Sanatorium, will, at a time and place later to be decided, undertake the administration of the tuberculin test for tuberculosis on all school children, whose parents or guardians are willing. The purpose of this test is to determine which, if any, of the children show any trace of tuberculosis.

The tuberculin test is not an experiment, but is a standard and proven procedure, both in sanatorium work, and outside the same. It has been shown, beyond doubt, that the successful treatment of tuberculosis depends upon recognition of this disease in its earliest stages. This is particularly true in the case where children are affected. Very often the ordinary symptoms which call attention to need for treatment, occur too late for such treatment to be effective.

The tuberculin test is particularly valuable in that it will show in the case of very early tuberculosis, some reaction, which will be very valuable in determining the need for further observation, and, if necessary, treatment.

The test is exceedingly simple and painless, and children are not ill after it. Consequently, there need be no hesitation on the part of parents or guardians in permitting their children to take advantage of this opportunity for treatment.

The cost of this proposed test will be paid by the money which was raised in our district last winter by the sale of Christmas seals. This Christmas seal fund was intended for just such work of tuberculosis prevention, and up to date the work has been limited to the monthly clinics held in the Sanatorium. These will be continued, but, as there was a surplus beyond the immediate needs of these clinics, the Sanatorium authorities have decided to offer this extension of service to take in the entire school population.

This same program is being put into operation in both New Liskeard and Cobalt. It is hoped that all the parents of school children may give their consent to this test being performed on their children. A printed form will be supplied by the Board of Health, and time and place of the test will be indicated thereon. It will be necessary for the parent or guardian to sign this form, which will indicate his consent to the test being performed, and, after signing, return it to the local health authorities. (In the case of Haileybury, this authority will be vested in the Public Health Nurse, who will send out the forms and to whom they should be returned.)

It is hoped that the public may clearly understand this, and will know that no child whose parent or guardian has not so expressed his consent, will be given the test. To avoid disappointment and confusion, it is strongly urged that parents and guardians attend to this matter immediately upon receipt of the form, so that Dr. Wilson, who will conduct the test, will know how many children to make provision for.

W. C. ARNOLD, M.O.H."

Toronto Church Services In Broadcast Each Sunday

Bloor Street United Church, Toronto, has always taken a special interest in Northern Ontario, and every year contributes large sums to Mission Churches over a wide area. This church has now arranged with the Canadian Radio Commission to broadcast its morning service each Sunday from 11 a.m. to 12 noon over stations CRCT and CRCX (short wave).

The services are conducted by the Rev. George C. Pidgeon, M.A. D.D., a distinguished preacher, whose messages are of an inspirational character and bring help and comfort to those who are unable to attend their own church, or who are shut in on account of illness. Dr. Pidgeon would welcome letters from all those who hear his broadcasts over the air.

Change Methods Of Teaching In Public Schools

School Men Conservative, But Revisions Are Coming, Principal Says

Although educational authorities or "school men", as he termed it, are very conservative in their ideas, there are changes coming gradually in courses of our public schools, Principal R. J. McClanahan of the Haileybury Public School told the local Rotary Club in an address at the regular weekly meeting on Monday.

The courses are now being revised by two prominent educational men, he said, and he expected the result would be an increase in the public school term from the present seven years to eight under the new schedule. The trend is also swinging towards mental training rather than the old system of laying great stress on actual training in arithmetic, for instance, Mr. McClanahan said, and even in the teaching of geography there was a revised system gradually being adopted. There would be difficulty experienced by teachers in adapting themselves to the newer ways in the educational world, he thought, but he had no criticisms of the changes which are gradually being adopted.

Mr. McClanahan told some of the problems which are met with daily in his own institution, and the difficulties which are met with in the dissemination of knowledge to the pupils. There was the problem of the family afflicted with nits in the hair as one example, something that gave the school staff a great deal of trouble. Then there was the case of a child coming to school with bare hands in the winter, crying

with the cold, while the parents had purchased a new radio.

There were pupils with very low mentality, the speaker said, some of whom simply could not be taught, and an interesting point he mentioned was the fact that boys who start smoking lose their usefulness in school. He didn't know how to account for this, the speaker said, but it invariably happened that a boy quit learning when he started smoking.

The speaker told of the work being done in the public school under the recently inaugurated manual training classes, where the boys were given useful instruction in woodwork and where it was hoped to introduce metal and leather crafts as well. "Do not be disappointed if your boy does not bring home a highly finished article" Mr. McClanahan said, "for the training is not only in the crafts but in a highly valuable mental instruction."

There are too many boys with too little to do, he stated, and for this reason he believed that the former system of cadet training in the schools, without any undue trend towards militarism, was a splendid thing for the boys. Boy Scouts, Cub Packs and any other organizations to take up boys' work are always of great value in a community, and the speaker urged the Rotarians to lend whatever help in this way they possibly could.

At the close of Mr. McClanahan's talk, he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks on motion of Rotarian Geo T. Hamilton, who expressed the hope that the speaker would return on a later occasion and tell the club more about the educational work of the community.

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