

HALTON HAS HIGHEST PER CAPITA GIVINGS TO TUBERCULOSIS FUND

Tuberculosis, age-old destroyer of health, suffered a measured rebuff in Halton county last year under the growing strength of the county TB Association's preventative and educational programs, report-making Christmas Seal sales, and medical assistance budget.

An overflow audience at the annual meeting heard speakers and officers of the robust association tick off the year's stand-out achievements. These included:

A 14 per cent increase in Seal sales for a 1954 total of \$16,196, which breaks down to a \$2.1 cents per capita return—the highest in Canada.

Completion of a county-wide survey, conducted by professional pollsters, to estimate public knowledge of TB's sources, characteristics, prevention and cure extent.

Increase in the year's grant to the Mountain Sanatorium to make a total donation of \$5,000, and a substantial increase in allowance for educational service.

Greater funds for 1955 to further social service and rehabilitation work, mobilize a travelling clinic for the north end of the county, being another

or mass x-ray survey, step up the diagnostic method of detection and broaden the reach of TB education.

Danger of Complacency

While impressed with the effect of these achievements in lowering the TB death rate, the 130 persons in Trafalgar's township hall were warned by more than one speaker that a danger of complacency lies in reports of success.

TB is still prevalent, D. H. T. Ewart, medical superintendent of the Mountain Sanatorium, reminded his audience.

Three to five million people still die annually of TB, the guest speaker stated, "and some 50,000,000 people are suffering from this infectious disease in the world today."

Turning to history and known statistics, Dr. Ewart explained how improvements in social habits and medical science have reduced the once-frightening ratio of 400 TB deaths per 100,000 to 10 per 100,000 in less than two centuries. Going father back, he traced the toll of TB on human life since the time of Hippocrates, through the blood-letting of the middle ages to the starvation/suffocation remedies of the romantic age.

Table TB Survey

Despite the contrast in today's remarkable advances in diagnosis and prognosis, this consumptive killer is still the number one infectious disease, the speaker concluded.

Earlier he was introduced by Dr. W. Anderson, Oakville, and thanked at the conclusion of his address by Bruce MacNab, Milton.

A highlight of Monday night's meeting was the tabling of the Halton survey on TB awareness, conducted for the Ontario TB Association. W. C. Dalgleish, public relations director of the Halton organization, reviewed the category of questions asked, indicated how some of the answers might be interpreted and briefly discussed results of the poll when considered in a directive or measuring stick sense.

Although it was evident the public is lacking in some specific areas of knowledge about TB, the Association and the Health Unit, the survey is still regarded as successful in view of the usefulness of the results.

Halton An Example

At the outset of the meeting, E. J. O'Brien, secretary of the Ontario TB Association, stressed, "TB is a community problem and should not be shrugged off to the governments or medical profession." He referred to the importance of cooperation with the Health Unit in preventive measures and carrying through treatment backed by the team work of all organizations.

Mr. O'Brien credited the Halton Association with "the biggest Christmas Seal sale of any area in Canada."

Dr. L. Holling, of the Ontario Department of Health, also spoke of the exemplary reputation of the Halton organization and emphasized the role of volunteer groups in the fight against TB.

Treasurer D. Hamilton Wright, Oakville, revealed 1954's sale of Seals in the county returned \$16,138, an increase of \$2,075 over last year's sales of \$14,063. He said sales total in four years have quadrupled. Credit for this, the treasurer indicated, should be given to Mrs. M. E. Lunau, the active secretary.

President Reviews Year

Mr. Hamilton Wright also presented the Mountain Sanatorium superintendent with a cheque for \$2,000, additional to \$3,000 already turned over to this institution.

Later the treasurer, retiring this year from the organization and leaving Oakville, was presented with a briefcase by president D. H. Ewart.

President Ewart reviewed the highlights of the year's work and noted particularly the patch test program in Halton schools. Results so far have shown only two per cent positive reaction, it was later reported.

The president, re-elected for 1955 office, disclosed a travelling chest clinic is under consideration for the north end of the county as a major part of 1955's detection efforts, one of a three-point program outlined for the year's activities. He outlined the other two aims of Association action for 1955 as a step-up of educational efforts and wider disbursements of funds on TB patients and with post-san cases.

Secretary's Report

In her secretary's report, Mrs. Lunau said Halton had 21 patients in sanatoria. During the past year there were five deaths among consumptives. She went on to outline the allotment of money in 1954 for social and rehabilitation work, then turned to statistics on the 1954 Seal sale.

The current campaign was the most successful yet. Over 12,000 letters were sent out and each one averaged a return of \$1.28. 1955's average return was \$1.19. Each contributor donated on an average of \$2.91, she said. Concluding, Mrs. Lunau thanked the organizations and citizens of Halton for support "in making this the banner county in Ontario."

Officers named for 1955 are: president, R. F. Baan, Acton; vice president, E. C. Foster, R. R. 3, Campbellville; treasurer, B. B. Harrison, Oakville; medical advisory committee, Dr. A. F. Bull, MOH, Dr. W. L. Anderson, Oakville; executive secretary, Mrs. M. E. Lunau, Oakville; direc-

Find Unknown Friends Annual Rebekah Affair

Members of Verdun Rebekah lodge who attended the fiftieth anniversary dinner of Evening Star Rebekah lodge last Tuesday evening were:

Mrs. Edna Spence, District Deputy President of Centre District No. 11, who brought greetings from Verdun Rebekah lodge and proposed the toast to the visitors;

Mrs. Robert Jepson, who presented a small gift to the Noble Grand of Evening Star Lodge from Verdun Lodge; Mrs. Jean King, vice grand; Mrs. Florence Bailey, Mrs. Margaret Groat, Mrs. Ann Collins, Mrs. Evelyn Walker, Mrs. Elsie Gibbs, Mrs. Winifred Norton, Mrs. Nellie Willett, Mrs. Nora Tuck.

tors; H. C. Morris, Oakville; G. Gow, R. 2, Burlington; N. Craig, Burlington; Dr. A. F. Bull, MOH, Dr. W. L. Anderson; B. MacNab, R. R. 5, Milton; public relations, W. R. Dalgleish, Oakville; B. MacNab, R. R. 6, Milton; public relations, W. R. Dalgleish, Oakville.

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