

# ASK GOVERNMENT TO RAISE GRANTS.

Deputation From Tuberculosis  
Conference to See Premier.

MEETING HELD YESTERDAY.

Provincial Secretary Speaks  
For Government.

Governor-General Chairman at Con-  
ference of County and Municipal  
Delegates in Alexandra Theatre—  
Reception at Government House  
—Earl Grey Favors Movement.

## 'Ware the White Plague.

I never pass through a city in Canada in the early morning, after leaving a railway station during the winter, without counting the number of open windows that I see, and I pass through street after street apparently without a cranny or a crack through which the fresh air from outside can penetrate the house, and I reflect upon the way in which the poor people, out of sheer ignorance, are manufacturing consumption by preventing the blessed air of Heaven from coming in and saving them from becoming victims of that plague.—Earl Grey.

The need for prompt action and united effort was the keynote of the splendid tuberculosis conference held in the Alexandra Theatre yesterday. The conference was called by the National Sanitarium Association, and delegates were present from 44 municipalities and 17 counties. With little questioning the conference passed by a unanimous standing vote a resolution to the Provincial Government asking that the Government materially increase the grants toward stamping out tuberculosis in the Province. At 10.30 o'clock to-day all the delegates who can will form a deputation to wait upon Premier Whitney and his Cabinet in order to present the views embodied in the resolution. The Hon. W. J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, assured the conference that the Government were very much disposed to assist, and promised that the deputation would be accorded a very sympathetic reception.

The chair was taken by his Excellency the Governor-General, with his Honor Sir Mortimer Clark seated at his right. Among those on the platform were the Hon. W. A. Charlton, Mr. W. J. Gage, Hon. W. J. Hanna, Mr. Edward Gurney, Mr. Ambrose Kent, Mr. J. P. Downey, M.P.P.; Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Crerar, Hamilton; Mayor Stevely, London; Mayor D'Arcy Scott, Ottawa; Judge Barron, Stratford; Mr. J. W. Bowlby, Brantford; Dr. N. A. Powell, R. H. Davies, W. Lloyd Wood, J. J. Crabbe and Thomas Long.

### Governor-General Opens Meeting.

Mr. Edward Gurney expressed the appreciation of the conference for the favor his Excellency the Governor-General had shown them in consenting to occupy the chair. In opening, Earl Grey said that he understood the meeting had been convened with the object of enabling the delegates to discuss what means should be taken to put down the great plague. "I have lit-

tle doubt," said his Excellency, "but that you will take a broad and comprehensive idea of the duty of the Province to fight this disease. Scientists say that if we are earnest we can drive consumption from the country. We should be greatly to blame if we did not do our very utmost in this direction to make our people immune from this plague which affects the whole known world."

The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Mortimer Clark, in opening his address said that the gathering of such a large number of delegates from all parts of the Province augured well for the earnestness and sincerity they possessed in regard to the work of preventing and of alleviating the suffering endured by so many of their fellow-citizens. It was both the duty of the municipalities and the State to care for the health of the people, and there was no reason, he said, why vigorous steps should not be taken by the State to check tuberculosis, such as was done with smallpox.

### Thirty Thousand Deaths.

Mr. W. J. Gage in his address said the last report of the Provincial Board of Health showed that in ten years there were over 30,000 deaths from tuberculosis registered. This number, based on the conservative estimate of four cases to each death, meant that there were about 120,000 cases of consumption in various stages continually in existence in the Province. There was, however, said the speaker, some encouragement in the fact that in the last seven years there had been a decrease of about 15 per cent. in the death rate, and he believed that the National Sanitarium Association had materially helped to this result. The cities of Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa and London had made or were making provision for accommodation for needy patients, but all the other municipalities in the Province had done nothing but make an occasional grant to the Muskoka homes. Mr. Gage spoke of the great and pressing need for increased Government grants. The cost of maintaining the sanitariums and hospitals had increased by almost 50 per cent., while the Government grant had remained stationary at

\$1.50 said with every grant.

assist along the lines indicated," said Mr. Hanna. "The figures voted in the present estimates must not be regarded as conclusive, as the Government thought it right to leave the question open until after the meeting to-day, and after they had heard what the committee had to propose." The Provincial Secretary said that the Government had in view the publishing of a pamphlet dealing with the whole subject of tuberculosis, which, by being placed in the hands of every adult in the Province, would leave no excuse for ignorance on the subject such as at present exists.

Among those who delivered short addresses were Mayor D'Arcy Scott of Ottawa; Mayor Stevely, London; Mrs. P. D. Crerar, Hamilton; Mayor J. W. Bowlby, Brantford; Mayor J. S. Campbell, St. Catharines; W. H. Moss Dundas, and J. H. Cook, Lambton county.

### Self-reliance the Best Policy.

In response to a vote of thanks for his graciousness in taking the chair, his Excellency the Governor-General said in part:—"I was glad to hear in so many speeches the note that the people have to depend upon themselves and not to lie down on the Government—even in spite of the speech from western Ontario, in which the suggestion was made that the Government of Ontario should find all the money that was required to provide the hospitals. (Laughter). No, gentlemen, we have all got to depend upon ourselves, and I heard with the greatest possible pleasure the announcement from Mr. Hanna of the intention of his Government to prepare a pamphlet which would carry information into the households of the people; because I believe that you must depend upon the self-efforts and upon the education of the people themselves if you wish to conquer this enemy, consumption. I never pass through a city in Canada in the early morning, after leaving a railway station during the winter, without counting the number of open windows that I see, and I pass through street after street apparently without

## The Premier and the Power Question.

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Hon. A. G. MacKay has put upon the order paper of the Legislature a series of questions that will probably force Premier Whitney to tell the people of Ontario what it is the general opinion even of his political friends he should have disclosed when negotiations were entered upon, namely, that the Government of Ontario had an opportunity to settle the entire power problem by acquiring control of the Electrical Development Company's plant on terms as advantageous as those secured by Mr. Wm. Mackenzie and his associates. The questions of which the Leader of the Opposition has given notice, and which are likely to be followed later by a debate that will clear the air, are as follows:—

Mr. MacKay, on Friday next—Inquiry of Ministry:—

(1) Did any representative of holders of bonds issued by the Electric Development Company interview the Premier or any member of the Government prior to the 26th of February last, when Mr. Wm. Mackenzie obtained a controlling interest in the said company?

(2) If so, was any suggestion, proposition or offer made by the said representative to the Government or any member thereof looking to the acquiring by the Province or the City of Toronto of all the property of the said company or of a controlling interest in the said company?

(3) If the interview was not along the said lines, what was the nature and result of the said interview?

(4) What was the date of the interview?

(5) Did any letter or memorandum pass between the said representative and the Premier or any member of the Government?

(6) Did the Premier immediately make known to the Mayor of the City of Toronto or to any other member of the City Council the nature of the said interview and the terms of any such suggestion, proposition or offer?

(7) Did the Premier or any member of the Government do anything whatever towards bringing the said representative and the City Council into conference on the subject?

(8) If not, why not?