



CAUSES OF TUBERCULOSIS

By DR. ARTHUR L. FORSTER

Note: Dr. Forster will answer such health questions in these columns as will be of interest to others and permissible in public print.

In a series of autopsies at one of the world's largest hospitals it was found that in 95 per cent of all persons who had arrived at the age of fifteen years the lungs showed evidence of healed or active tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis Not Hereditary

Previous to the discovery of the tubercle bacillus the disease was regarded as hereditary. Now we know that there is nothing inheritable about it.

A mother can give birth to a child that has active tuberculosis and her milk may contain tubercle bacilli. But both occurrences are so extremely rare that they are not worth consideration.

Resistance to Tuberculosis

The germ of tuberculosis gains access to the body by being inhaled or swallowed. And since these bacteria are present at all times in every community it follows that practically all of us are certainly harboring them.

So far as immunity is concerned there probably is none—at least in the sense that measles or whooping cough confer. The best preventive of tuberculosis is a healthy condition of the tonsils, teeth, larynx and bronchial tubes, together with nor-

mal activity of the stomach and intestines. It is only when the germs encounter a point of lowered resistance that they are capable of establishing themselves.

Predisposing Causes of Tuberculosis

People are more apt to acquire tuberculosis or, having acquired it, to actively develop it, if they are anemic; if they are habitually exhausted; when they are undernourished; when they are below weight; after repeated attacks of bronchitis; following slow recovery from flu, measles, whooping cough and similar diseases.

Tuberculosis in Children

Children are to be suspected as being predisposed to tuberculosis or probably already have it in a latent form if they have adenoids, enlarged glands of the necks, show a tendency to eczema, are pale and have poor teeth.

Decayed teeth should not be left unattended just because they are temporary. Cavities in the teeth harbor all kinds of germs including the tubercle bacilli, and are a menace to the child's health.

Enlarged glands in the neck are in a large percentage of cases tubercular. The germs inhaled into the throat are first checked by the tonsils, and when these are overpowered diseased or removed, the glands step into the breach.

Tuberculosis is a disease of civilization. It is a product of overcrowding and all its attendant evils. Our health officers are doing all that is possible to corral everyone who has the disease. When the last patient has been caught and isolated the White Plague will have been conquered.

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HEALTH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions and Answers

Mrs. J. R. H. writes:

(1) Woman, aged 50. Has intercostal neuralgia. Could you suggest a permanent cure for it? At times the right side is sore. Artificial teeth are used. Patient is thin but feels well in other ways.

(2) This condition is due to a dryness of the membrane lining the joints, which is a result of local infection. Electricity and massage will help. In addition to such local measures the systematic poisoning must be eliminated.

(3) I would suggest that your sister see a specialist who can examine the nose. The most common cause of ringing of the ears is a catarrhal condition of the nose, and when this is corrected the ringing ceases.

(4) Man, aged 55. Has creaking sound in knees heard when going up or down stairs. They are not painful. Could you suggest a cure? Would electrical treatment help?

(5) Sister has ringing noises in her left ear for two and a half years. It is present night and day. Have been to several doctors and a specialist. Nothing has helped. One doctor stated it might be from the blood pressure but treatment for

CRISP COMMENT

Nowadays a strict father expects a daughter to be home for breakfast in the morning.—Brandon Sun

To blare simple information that everybody knows is to confess that you have just discovered it.—Vancouver Sun

Statistics state that every third child born into the world in Chinese. So it is still safe to have twins.—Sault Star

A Society event, it seems is something that makes a woman mad if she isn't invited and a man if he is.—Galt Reporter

With eggs being quoted at \$1.25 a dozen, political campaigners are at least safe from a kind of attack.—Hamilton Spectator

Dornoch

(Our Own Correspondent)

The Presbyterian W.M.S. held their annual business meeting on Monday. All officers were re-elected for the coming year.

The many friends in this vicinity of Mr. and Mrs. William Doyle of Sullivan extend their sincere sympathy to them in the recent loss of their little girl Dorothy, aged 5, who passed away with diphtheria last week.

Miss Myrtle Robertson left for Owen Sound last week where she has secured a position for the winter.

We are all glad to see Mrs. J. C. Henderson around again.

Mr. Irving Pickard of Toronto spent a few days with his aunt Mrs. A. MacIntosh.

Congratulations to the Bentinck Council on all being returned by acclamation. People know a good thing when they get it.

Mrs. Thos. McBeth of Paisley spent a day recently with her sister Mrs. Wm. Smith.

Mr. John Sweeney accompanied by his son, Eddie, both of the west returned home on Friday.

The Presbyterian Young People's Society was re-organized on Sunday and we hope to see it well attended.

We were sorry to lose one of our old pioneers last week in the person of Mrs. A. McCracken. Much sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

There was quite an exciting time in our vicinity last week with broncho breaking which proved very fatal to a pig.

Swinton Park.

(Our Own Correspondent)

A school concert will be put on here in the hall on December 17. A good programme will be put on by the pupils of the school and also the young people. Music by the Haw orchestra.

Miss Gladys Hamilton of Jessopville spent the week-end with her friend, Miss V. Haw.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Richardson and family have disposed of their farm here and have taken up residence in Toronto.

There were no services at Swinton Park on Sunday, Mr. Sutherland being unable to get out.

Mrs. John Corbett, we are sorry

to say, is confined to bed for the last week.

Mr. Gordon McLeod is engaged with Mr. J. H. Richardson cutting and hauling logs to Proton.

Mr. James Hardy attended at fowl supper at Dundalk on Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart visited on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McLean.

Crawford

(Our Own Correspondent)

Christmas Tree Tuesday December 21.

Mr. Dan Stinson, employee at Ball's furniture factory, Hanover, spent Sunday with his parents here.

Mrs. Sarah McKechnie of Hamilton is visiting at present with her many friends at Crawford.

Miss Edna McDougall is spending a few days holidaying at the home of her brother, Harry, in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Boyce and Beverley spent a day recently with Mr. Russell Fiddis and sisters Brant.

Mrs. Richard Boyce is staying at Mr. Clifford Howells, Durham, at present. We hope Mrs. Howells who recently underwent an operation in Durham hospital will soon be well again.

It is now F. R. Oliver, M.P.P. His many supporters in this community wish to heartily congratulate him on his success, and also the electors in the entire riding who put party aside and placed principle first.

A number from here attended the nomination held at Lamplash on Monday, Nov. 29. By all reports the 1926 Council gave a fine report of this work for the past year, and all were returned to office by acclamation. Congratulations.

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TOMMY HOLMES FEARED DYING

Canada's Youngest V. C. Gets Only \$35 Pension. Small Pension Only Obtained After Long Fight

Tommy Holmes, Canada's youngest V.C., is, it is feared, dying of tuberculosis at the home of his parents at Owen Sound, where he lives with his wife and little child.

Holmes won his decoration for attacking and putting out of business two German "pill boxes" while serving with the C.M.R. He was only 19 at the time. The boy suffered a shattered arm. He was also slightly gassed at Arras, but not sufficiently to necessitate his going to hospital for treatment.

After the war he worked for a time with the Hydro Electric in Toronto as meter tester. In June of 1923, following a succession of colds and coughing, he was examined by Dr. Howie, of Owen Sound, who advised outdoor work. Holmes secured a change of occupation from the hydro, but found himself, after some time, unable to carry on, and, in 1923, went to the home of his parents in Owen Sound, with his wife and little one.

Given Small Pension

H. G. Tucker, barrister, of Owen Sound, and Dr. Howie, and others interested themselves in the case and tried to induce the pensions board of the D. S. C. R. to provide something of a pension for the youth whose exploit had rung from coast to coast of his country. Their efforts were, for a time unsuccessful. The answer given was that

Holmes' record in the army showed nothing of lung trouble.

Holmes' answer to this is that he has never been well since December 1918, when, about the time he won his V.C., several of the men of the 4th C.M.R.'s took the flu.

A pension of \$35 a month was finally secured for him. He has recently returned from a stay in the Byron Sanatorium at London, but little improved.

School Teacher Takes on Big Job

Alice is only twenty-one. Yet she already has a profession and a career and left both behind her. From now on her principal business is to fight hard for life, and when the fighting does become a little less precarious she may take up some other kind of work, but it must not be teaching.

At least that's what the doctors say—for the hard work she went through had just one result—they placed her here on a cot in the Muskoka Hospital for Consumptives.

Alice smiles bravely when she is told she is only a youngster, and says her immediate big job is to respond to the wonderfully sympathetic treatment she is receiving from the nurses and doctors who are trying to undo in a few months the harm that disease has wrought in several years.

A gift from you will assist the hospital in bringing Alice and other similar cases back to health. Contributions may be sent to Hon. W. A. Charlton, President, 223 College Street, Toronto 2, Ontario.

Lawyer's Wife: John, is it better to lie on the right side or the left side? Lawyer: My dear, if one is on the right side it usually isn't necessary to lie at all. It Will Pay You to Advertise in The Chronicle.

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