

Tuberculosis Now More Prevalent in Rural Localities

For the first time in history tuberculosis is a greater menace to rural than to city people in Illinois. Tuberculosis infection has declined 47 per cent among young children since 1918. Three counties in central Illinois and seven that fringe the extreme southern end are still so heavily infected that more than one inhabitant per thousand succumbs and more than one per hundred comes down with the disease annually.

These announcements, characterized as an encouraging challenge, were made this week by Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, state health director, who has just completed an exhaustive study of the tuberculosis situation, undertaken as a means for formulating intelligently the future program and policies of the state government in its efforts to eradicate the disease.

Shift Work to Country

"Concentrating efforts in two excessively infected down-state areas and shifting the emphasis of activities from city to rural territory are two cardinal principles that must be significantly considered in the future campaign against tuberculosis in Illinois" Dr. Rawlings declared. "Logan, Morgan and Sangamon counties in the central region and Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski and Union in the extreme south constitute areas where the death rate has persistently been and continues to be considerably more than 100 per 100,000 population while in the remainder of the state the rate has dropped to about 74.

"Beginning in 1919 the death rate from tuberculosis among inhabitants of cities of 10,000 or more people has been less than among people in the rest of the state. The death rate is about 72 in the cities and 81 in the rural districts, a decided different. This persistent and noticeable change indicates clearly that urbanites have learned to deal with tuberculosis more successfully than the rural inhabitants. Mortality in the rural districts has not increased. It simply has not declined so rapidly as that in the cities.

Mortality Rate Declines

"Mortality from tuberculosis among children less than 5 years old has declined 47 per cent since 1918, a considerably larger decrease than that of any other age group. This suggests that the pasteurization of milk supplies which has increased enormously during that period is an important factor in tuberculosis control.

"Remarkable improvement has marked the progress of the campaign against tuberculosis and 1928 promises to yield the lowest mortality rate from that

disease ever recorded in Illinois. At the same time tuberculosis constitutes a health problem that is far from being solved. More than 5000 persons will have died from it during this year. That indicates the presence of more than 40,000 actively infected persons still living in the state. Manifestly the program against the white plague must be vigorously renewed in order to protect the healthy and stop the prodigious losses still caused by tuberculosis. Our success to date may be regarded simply as encouraging. The magnitude and character of the problem of tuberculosis for future solution is a real challenge.

Wilmette Youth Wins His Letter at Beloit College

Football letters were awarded to fifteen men of Beloit college who were active on the freshman squad this year. The squad was coached by Roy Bohler, director of athletics of the college, and although the one game they played ended in defeat for Beloit, the men received good training for varsity ball next year.

Those receiving letters were: George Kelsey and George Bedell, Beloit; Sam Amrine and Ralph Hopkins, Rockton; Hotzell Bode, Robert Bushnell and Howard Johnson, Oak Park; Wilbur Cooper, Byron, Ill.; Gilbert Dopp, Oconomowoc, Wis.; John Jessup, Chicago; Howard Jones and William Messenbrink, Hinsdale; William Miller, Rockford; Dudley Porter, China; and Tom Sellery, Wilmette.

GO EAST FOR WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Morris L. Greeley, 655 Maple avenue, are leaving for the East next Thursday to attend the wedding of their son, Joseph, which will take place on December 15, at Brookline, Mass.

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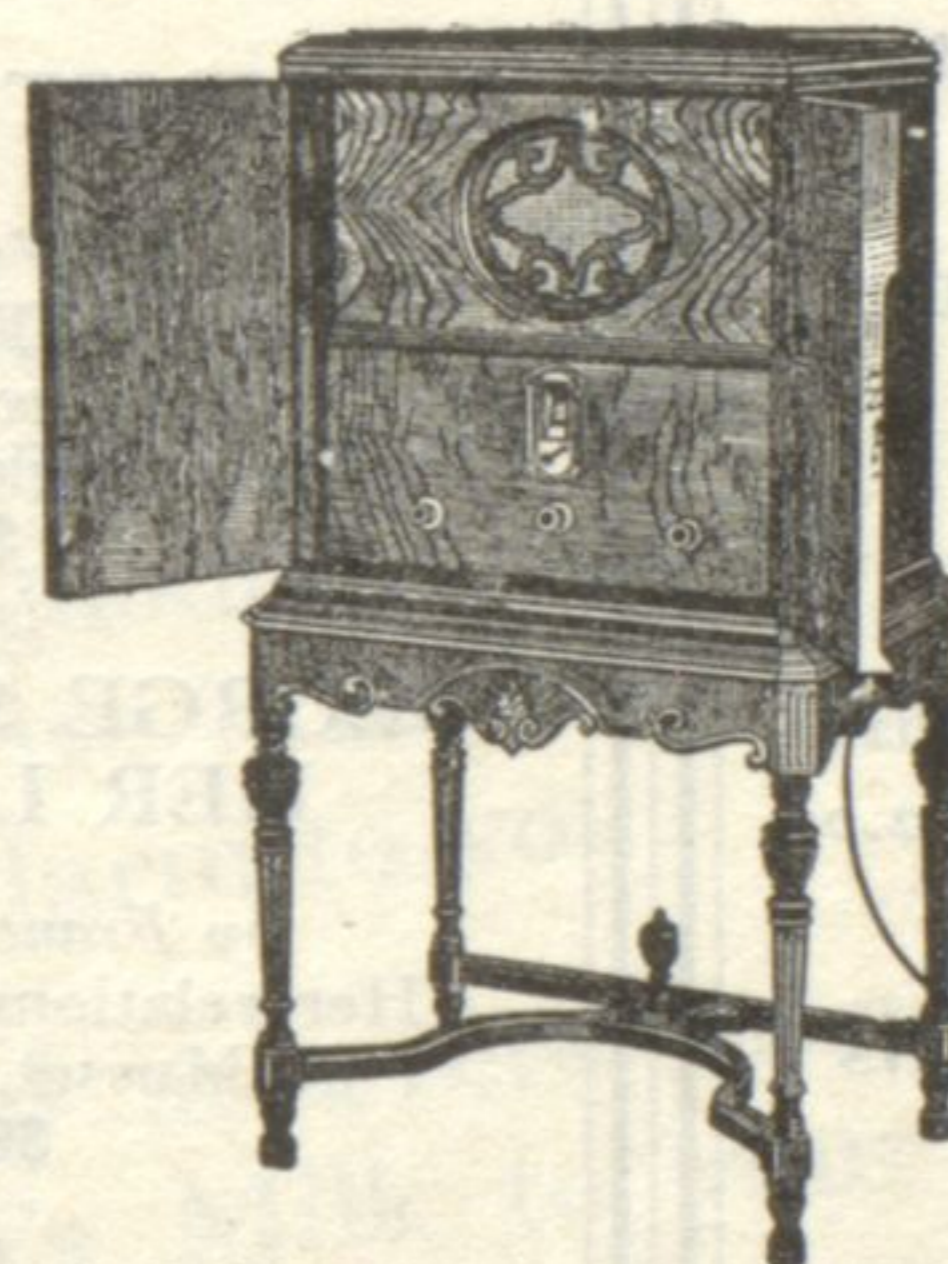
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