

tain a sanatorium for the care and cure of consumptives. Secondly, that the Association encourage the formation of local societies, the objects of which are to be:

(a) To collect funds for the maintenance of a consumption sanatorium.

(b) To look after the interests of local consumptives.

(c) To establish a course of lectures on consumption and insanitary conditions favourable to it in our public schools.

(d) To ask for a municipal grant from local authorities towards the maintenance fund.

(e) To ask clergymen of all denominations to devote one Sunday sermon in each year to health matters, referring especially to consumption, the collection to go towards the maintaining of the consumption sanatorium.

Local societies have already been formed in most of our principal towns, and it is hoped that by the end of the year every town, village, and district in British Columbia will have its society.

The funds collected are passed into the hands of three trustees, who are public men of high standing—namely, the Chief Justice of the province and the managers of two of our leading banks. The principle adopted is to ask for small subscriptions, so that all classes can join. Each subscriber is asked to sign a paper agreeing to continue his subscription every year for ten years.

It is hoped that when a maintenance fund of reasonable proportions is thus secured for a term of at least ten years that there will then be no difficulty in raising sufficient money to build and equip an institution worthy of the proposed work.

I believe we have in the Kamloops district in British Columbia such conditions as should make it second to no other location for suitability as a site for sanatorial purposes. I happen to have before me my official report for the year 1902, in which, referring to a site for a sanatorium, I find the following:

Kamloops is on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, about 250 miles from Vancouver. It has an elevation of 1,100 ft., and is within what is called the "Kamloops Dry Belt." This dry belt extends from Spence's Bridge to Shuswap, and from about fifty miles up the North Thomson River to below Nicola Lake—roughly, 100 miles by 100.

The official reports for 1900 give the highest temperature as 93.4°, and the lowest as 10.1°. It is only right to say that both extremes last but a day or two. The official reports state that the lowest temperature reached in December was 16°, and in January 15.4°.

The rainfall for the year was 8.45 in., and for five months, from November to March inclusive, was 2.09. This, for Kamloops, was a high rainfall, for the average of a group of previous years was 6.25 in., and the average for a group of previous winter months was 1.55 in. The snowfall is light, being, for 1900, 2 in. in January, 0.8 in February, 1 in March, 2.2 in November, and none in December, which means that snow will never prevent outdoor recreation and exercise.—I am, etc.,

C. J. FAGAN,

Secretary, Anti-Tuberculosis Society for British Columbia, and
Secretary, Provincial Board of Health for British Columbia.
London, W.C., Sept. 13th.

SELF-SUPPORTING SANATORIUMS FOR CONSUMPTION AMONG THE WORKING CLASSES.

SIR,—An organization has been formed to carry out the above-named important object. How important it is can best be realized by a consideration of statistics which Dr. Latham submitted at the last annual meeting of the Hospital Saturday Fund. He stated that in London alone 16,000 persons die every year whose valuable lives might be saved with proper treatment, to say nothing of the thousands who are slowly moving to their doom.

Again, taking London by itself, he computes that no less than 80,000 of its population are stricken with one form or another of tuberculosis, and makes the startling deduction that one in every sixty-five will be dead in five years' time from a preventable disease.

The monetary loss to the industrial classes is appalling, and though there are no actual figures to go by, some comparative idea can be formed by the estimate, which Dr. Herman Briggé, the well-known health officer of New York, calculates, costs £66,000,000 annually to the United States.

Owing to the work of the Poor-law Unions and the few Consumption Hospitals and the National Association for the

Prevention of Consumption, in which His Majesty the King takes a deep personal interest, the death-rate from tuberculosis has been reduced during the last sixty years by no less than two-thirds, which means a saving of 75,000 lives a year.

The National Committee, of which Her Royal Highness Princess Christian is President, has been established under the auspices of the Hospital Saturday Fund, for the establishment of sanatoriums for workers suffering from tuberculosis; it is an exceptionally representative body, including delegates from practically all the great Friendly Societies and trades-unions, and the work is receiving enthusiastic support in all directions.

The Special Appeal Committee consists of Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Her Highness Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Somerset, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Earl and Countess Cadogan, the Earl and Countess of Derby, the Bishop of Stepney, the Lady Brasey, the Lady St. Heliers, the Hon. Harry Lawson and Mrs. Lawson, the Hon. Mrs. William West, Lady Duckworth, Sir William Taylor, Captain Balfour, M.P., and Lady Nina Balfour, Mr. Moore Bayley, Mr. Walter Burns, Mrs. James Coats, Mr. Eric Hambro, M.P., and Mrs. Eric Hambro, Mr. Charles and Mrs. Rubé, and Mr. Van Alen, and it appeals to the public for £50,000 to provide the building and acquire the site for a first sanatorium for the accommodation of 200 patients. About £6,000 has already been promised, and a suitable site has been secured at Benenden, Kent.

The various societies and trades-unions guarantee the cost of maintenance, but under the terms of their constitution, they can only make small donations towards the building and purchase of land. The sanatorium, therefore, will be self-supporting, and no appeal for funds will ever be made to the public again.

The following extract from Dr. Latham's address is extremely interesting from the economic point of view:

"Mr. Alfred Chapman and Mr. Russell, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, have made an important investigation into the cost of consumption to a single court of the Ancient Order of Foresters. The result of this investigation is so striking that there is reason to hope that all the Friendly and Allied Societies will make exhaustive inquiries into the subject. Mr. Russell finds that the average cost of sick pay to a consumptive member of his court is three times as great as the pay to any person dying from another disease. A man dying from consumption costs the society £21, and a man dying from another disease costs £7."

In pressing this appeal, enough has been said to bring home to the public the awful condition of things which this movement is organized to cope with; no words are needed to make it more impressive—the pathos lies in the figures quoted above. In this sense it must appear personally to every one, but it gains additional force, in that it is economically sound and its working is based on the principles which govern the great industrial benefit societies, and applies the sound principle of thrift to the greatest of all blessings, health. It is a practical movement against one of the worst scourges of our country, and in this sense becomes a truly rational one.

The Special Appeal Committee earnestly invites employers of labour, trades' unions and Friendly Societies who have not yet joined the movement to do so. The Secretary, Mr. E. Douglas White, will be pleased to give full particulars to any one applying to him.

Donors of £10 10s. and upwards will be entitled to have their names recorded as founders of the Institution; and donors of £250 and upwards will, in addition, be entitled to name a bed. Donations should be sent to Mr. E. Douglas White, Secretary to the Special Appeal Fund, at the offices of the Committee, 19, South Molton Street, Bond Street, London.—We are, etc.,

HELENA, *President.*

A. WILLIAM WEST, *Treasurer.*
E. DOUGLAS WHITE, *Secretary.*

THE PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

SIR,—The paragraph in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of September 16th, p. 664, concerning Australian sanatoriums for consumptives is misleading, inasmuch as the Wentworth Falls Sanatorium is not the only one in existence. In the last edition of my book on Sanatoriums for Consumptives a number of others are referred to. Some are, no doubt, more strictly speaking, chest hospitals or convalescent homes for con-