

MANY SIDED 'TEDDY'

How the President Always Supplies the Demand

WONDERFUL HONOR IS HIS

Will be President of the International Congress on Tuberculosis, the Greatest Assemblage of Its Kind in History—Convenes Next September

President Roosevelt's many-sidedness was strikingly illustrated during the week the conference of Governors was in session. In spite of the many interests political, personal and social engaging his attention, he found time to inform the officers of the International Congress on Tuberculosis of his acceptance of the presidency of that Congress, which is to be held in Washington on September 21 to October 12. Incidentally, in commenting upon the importance of the anti-tuberculosis crusade from an economic standpoint, he characterized the movement as full of hope for the individual and sure to confer material benefit on the country as a whole. He touched upon the opportunity the gathering of scientists and investigators from every part of the world will afford for the interchange of knowledge and for the consequent increased efficiency on the part of the medical profession to be expected. He referred also to the strengthening of international ties, and to the profound realization of the brotherhood of man to be gained from the union of all nations in the fight against the foe—the white plague—that is common to all. The President's acceptance was addressed to Dr. Lawrence F. Flick, of Philadelphia, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements for the Congress. The letter follows:

The White House, Washington, May 12, 1908.

Sir:

It is with great pleasure that I accept the presidency of the "International Congress on Tuberculosis" which is to meet in this city on Sept. 21, 1908, and extend its session to Oct. 12, 1908. Official duties, however, may prevent my presiding at the initial meeting of the Congress, in which case I will deputize Secretary Cortelyou.

The importance of the crusade against tuberculosis, in the interest of which this Congress convenes, cannot be overestimated when it is realized that tuberculosis costs our country two hundred thousand lives a year, and the entire world a million lives a year, besides to material progress, prosperity and happiness, and being an enormous expense to society, most often in those walks of life where the burden is least bearable.

Science has demonstrated that this disease can be stamped out, but the rapidity and completeness with which this can be accomplished depend upon the promptness with which the new doctrines about tuberculosis can be inculcated into the minds of the people and engrained upon our customs, habits and laws. The presence in our midst of representatives of world wide workers in this magnificent cause gives an unusual opportunity for accelerating the educational part of the program.

The modern crusade against tuberculosis brings hope and bright prospects of recovery to hundreds and thousands of victims of the disease, who under old teachings were abandoned to despair. The work of this Congress will bring the results of the latest studies and investigations before the profession at large and place in the hands of our physicians all the newest and most approved methods of treating the disease—a knowledge which will add many years of valuable life to our people and will thereby increase our public wealth and happiness.

The International Congress on Tuberculosis is in the interest of universal peace. By joining in such a warfare against a common foe the people of the world are brought closer together and made to realize better the brotherhood of man; for a united interest against a common foe fosters universal friendship. Our country which is honored this year as the host of other nations in this great gathering of leaders and experts and as the custodian of the magnificent exhibit which will be set up by the entire world, should manifest its appreciation by giving the Congress a setting worthy of the cause, of our guests, and of ourselves. We should endeavor to make it the greatest and the most fruitful Congress which has yet

been held, and I assure you of my interest and services to that end.

With expressions of appreciation for the compliment conferred in extending the invitation to become president of the Congress.

Very respectfully,
Theodore Roosevelt.

OTHER OFFICERS.

Dr. Edward L. Trudeau has been elected honorary president of the Congress, and Vice-President Fairbanks, Speaker Cannon and the governors of the States have been asked to serve as vice-presidents. The list of vice-presidents is not complete, but those who have agreed to serve in that capacity include Vice-President Fairbanks, Speaker Cannon, Governors Gillet of California, Buchtel of Colorado, Woodruff of Connecticut, Deneen of Illinois, Hanly of Indiana, Cummins of Iowa, Hoch of Kansas, Wilson of Kentucky, Cobb of Maine, Crothers of Maryland, Warner of Michigan, Johnson of Minnesota, Noel of Mississippi, Folk of Missouri, Floyd of New Hampshire, Fort of New Jersey, Hughes of New York, Glenn of North Carolina, Burke of North Dakota, Harris of Ohio, Chamberlain of Oregon, Stuart of Pennsylvania, Ansel of South Carolina, Patterson of Tennessee, Cutler of Utah, Proctor of Vermont, Swanson of Virginia, and Dawson of West Virginia.

The International Congress on Tuberculosis comes to this country on the invitation of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. Preparations for the Congress are under way all over the world, and it promises to be the greatest gathering in the interest of public health ever held in this country. A preliminary announcement, which has just been issued, contains in addition to the plans and the provisional program for the seven sections which will make up the assemblage, the personnel of the committees of arrangement in the States and Territories in this country, and in the other countries that will take part in the Congress and in the exhibition. Every State in the Union is represented in this list, and twenty-eight foreign countries. Fifteen hundred persons are named on the State Committee lists for our own country and over 1,250 in the register for other lands.

Foreign Countries.

Great Britain takes the lead so far as numbers are concerned with a committee of 247 members of which Sir Wm. Church, ex-president of the Royal College of Physicians of England, is chairman. Sir T. Clifford Allbut, Professor G. Sims Woodhead, and Dr. Wm. Osler, formerly of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, constituted the committee on organization, and among the other members of the general committee are the Countess of Aberdeen, who is at the head of the sub-committee for Ireland; Sir Thomas Barlow of London, consulting physician to the King's household; and Professor Sir Robert Boyce, member of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis.

The French committee with a membership of 154 members comes next, and the German list with 144 takes the next place. M. Loubet the former president of France is honorary president of the committee for that country, and the register of this and of the other European committee is virtually a "Who's Who" of the most distinguished investigators in the field of preventive medicine. In addition to the scientists and medical men of marked distinction, a large number of officials of high social and political rank are included in the list. Members of the French committee have indicated their intention of making what they have called a "sentimental journey" en route to the Congress in Washington. This tour will take them first to Canada, where they will make a historic pilgrimage of the territory at one time owned by their country.

The German committee contains many notable names. That of Robert Koch, the discoverer of the tubercle bacillus, stands pre-eminent among them, and the long list mentions men of affairs like Victor Prince Hohenzollern and Count von Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, a member of the Prussian Diet; and Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, Imperial Secretary of the Interior, and Vice President of the Prussian Ministry of State.

Section Meetings.

The Congress will hold two plenary sessions, one at the beginning and the other at the close of the meeting. These will be of general interest, and will be intended principally for the exchange of greetings from the official delegates. There will be seven divisions of the Congress, and the scientific discussions will take place at these section meetings. All but one of the sections will be devoted to the consideration of the tuberculosis problem from a strictly scientific point

of view. The remaining section will take up the problem from the hygienic, social, industrial, and economic standpoint. This phase of the subject has not been treated separately in the programs of the previous international Congresses, but the wide interest in the preventive measures that are being undertaken in this country, fully justifies the devotion of a distinct section to these interests.

Mr. Edward T. Devine of New York, the chairman of this section, has arranged a program of unusual interest. The economic aspects of tuberculosis will be taken up at the opening session; and the phases of the subject to be discussed include the burdens entailed by the disease, on individuals and families; on the medical profession; on industry; on relief agencies; on the community, and on social progress. The speakers will include Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale University, Prof. Walter F. Wilcox of Cornell, Mr. Sherman C. Kingsley of Chicago, Dr. Martin W. Barr, Superintendent of the Pennsylvania School for the Feeble-Minded, Mr. Talcott William, of the Philadelphia Press, has promised a paper on the problem as it affects Philadelphia, his subject being "The cost of a city's ransom; an estimate of the expenditure which would be required to control tuberculosis in Philadelphia." Mr. Homer Folks, Secretary of the State Charities Aid Association of New York, will discuss "Effective control in small towns and rural communities."

Occupational Tuberculosis.

Under the general theme of "Adverse Industrial Conditions," the topic to be discussed includes the incidence of tuberculosis according to occupation, overwork and nervous strain as factors, the effect of improvements in factory conditions on the health of employees, and legitimate exercise of the police power in protecting the life and health of employees. The speakers scheduled to take part in these discussions include well known specialists like Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman of New Jersey, statistician of the Prudential Insurance Company; Prof. John R. Commons, of the University of Wisconsin; Dr. James Alex Miller, of New York; Mr. A. J. McKelway, Southern Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee; Dr. Hermann M. Biggs and Dr. G. M. Price, of New York; Dr. Henry B. Favill and Dr. Alice Hamilton, of Chicago; and Prof. C. E. A. Winslow, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The prevention and treatment of tuberculosis in certain population groups, notably the Jews, the Italians, the Irish-Americans, the Scandinavians of the Northwest, and the negroes will form the subject to papers to be read by Dr. Theodore B. Sachs of Chicago, Dr. Antonio Stella of New York, and Dr. Robert Wilson of Charleston, S. C.

Social Control.

In the session on the general subject of social control of tuberculosis President William F. Slocum, of Colorado College, will speak on "The best use of a large bequest for the benefit of consumptives." Mr. Livingston Farrand of New York, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, will outline "A comprehensive program for the prevention of tuberculosis; the relative functions of available agencies," and Mr. Rowland G. Hazard of Peace Dale, R. I., will speak on "Some economic aspects of the free treatment of tuberculosis by the State." Other participants will be Dr. H. C. Clapp of Boston, who will tell about the function of national, state and municipal governments in the control of tuberculosis; and Prof. C. R. Henderson, of the University of Chicago, who will discuss "Sickness and Invalidism Insurance."

Discussions on the early recognition of tuberculosis and the after care of persons in whom the disease has been arrested will lead up to an interchange of news on such projects as open air schools, suitable employments in the homes, farm colonies, etc. Among these who will contribute to these discussions are Dr. John H. Pryor of Buffalo, Dr. E. O. Otis of Boston, Dr. Lindsley R. Williams, Mrs. Helene Ingram, Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer, Miss Lillian Wald, Mr. Walter E. Kruesi, Secretary of the Boston Association for the Relief and Control of Tuberculosis; Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs of Baltimore, Mrs. James E. Newcomb, president of Stohy Wold Sanatorium and Mrs. S. J. Barrows of New York.

IMMUNITY MEASURES.

Other sessions will be devoted to the work done by the visiting nurses; to discussions of educational methods and agencies; to the consideration of measures for promoting immunity from the disease; and for increasing the powers of resistance—such as

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