

CHEST[®]

Official publication of the American College of Chest Physicians



THE DETROIT PLAN

C M H

Chest 1937;3;6-7
DOI 10.1378/chest.3.9.6-b

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ISSN: 0012-3692.

A M E R I C A N C O L L E G E O F



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treating Tuberculosis where the percentage of patients leaving "against advice" is too high.

F. W. B.

SULPHANILAMIDE THE clinical and laboratory investigation of Sulphanilamide is going on at a furious pace throughout the World.

Two Facts Stand Out:

1. It is indicated by investigations thus far that the chemical has tremendous therapeutic effect in Pneumococcus Pneumonia, irrespective of Type, and in some streptococcic and other infections.

2. It is indicated that the drug must be used with caution; the most apparent danger being the variation in individual tolerance. Therefore, the patient must be closely supervised by the physician, and blood and other changes constantly looked for.

It is earnestly recommended by the writer that every practicing physician who has not already done so, familiarize himself with the observations already made and carefully and critically watch developments.

An article on this subject by Dr. Harold R. Bohlman, of Baltimore, Md., appears in this issue on page 24.

F. W. B.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CHEST PHYSICIANS CHARTER Membership in The American College of Chest

Physicians has now been closed in fourteen states and the District of Columbia, with the exception of certain chest specialists of importance in National, State, County, and Municipal State Sanatoriums who did not have an opportunity to join The American College of Chest Physicians until the change in the By-laws of June 7th, 1937.

As the quota of Charter Memberships for the remaining states is reached, it is proposed to close them likewise. Membership thereafter will be dependent upon examination conducted by the Board of Regents. The entrance fee will then be \$50.00 payable prior to examination. A proper refund will be made to those applicants failing to be passed by the Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents as they now stand are as follows: Ralph C. Matson M.D., Portland, Oregon, Vice Chairman; H. Frank Carman, M.D., Dallas, Texas; McLeod M. George, M.D., Denver, Colorado; Benjamin Goldberg, M. D., Chicago, Illinois; Edward W. Hayes, M.D., Monrovia, California; John N. Hayes, M.D. Saranac Lake, N. Y.; Champneys H. Holmes, M.D., Atlanta, Georgia; Jay Arthur Myers, M.D., Minneapolis, Minn; Edward J. O'Brien, M.D., Detroit, Michigan; Victor S. Randolph, M.D., Phoenix, Arizona.

FRANK WALTON BURGE, M. D.,
Chairman,
Philadelphia, Pa.

THE DETROIT PLAN RECENTLY, we have been hearing much about the DETROIT PLAN for the eradication of tuberculosis. What is the DETROIT PLAN?

The DETROIT PLAN is a well rounded out tuberculosis program which will eventually bring every inhabitant of Detroit into a physician's office for a Mantoux or Von Pirquet skin test. If the reaction to the test is *Positive*, then the patient is automatically referred to a competent Radiologist for an x-ray picture. The plates are read by experienced Roentgenologists, and when in doubt, physicians from local sanatoria are called in for consultation.

Patients who are able to pay the physician's fee for the skin test and the x-ray, are expected to do so. Those patients who are not able to pay the physician's fee, can also have the services of a private physician, and the City of Detroit will pay the doctor \$1.00 for the skin test, and if an x ray picture is indicated, the City of Detroit will pay the Roentgenologist \$3.00 for the x ray plate. For this purpose, the City of Detroit has set aside a fund of \$1,000,000 to be spent within the next five years.

The City of Detroit is making use of every available bed in its fight against tuberculosis. More than a thousand beds in private sanatoria have been contracted for by the city for the care of tuberculous

patients, who cannot be accommodated in the City, County, or State Sanatoria.

Legislation has been enacted to hospitalize by compulsion, if necessary, those tuberculous individuals, who may be a menace to the community wherein they reside. This is especially applicable, when there are small children in the family.

Physicians are trained for their work, and they are compensated by the City of Detroit for their services. Visiting nurses, especially trained in tuberculosis work follow up every known case and contact.

The City of Detroit through its Health Department, the Wayne County Medical Society, and the Detroit Tuberculosis Sanatorium Association are united in this fight to eradicate tuberculosis.

Dr. Bruce Douglas, Tuberculosis Controller at Detroit, has released the following figures: Up to July 1st, there were 41,434 skin tests made in Detroit of which 10,010 were *Positive*. Of the 10,010 *Positive Reactors*, 7,403 had been x rayed, and 313 *Clinical Cases* of tuberculosis were found. This report shows that they are finding approximately one active case of tuberculosis for every one hundred cases tested. Should this ratio hold true all over the United States, and we have every reason to believe that it would be higher in many other communities; however, using the Detroit statistics as a basis: there are 120,000 people walking the streets with active tuberculosis and they are unaware of the fact that they have an active communicable disease. Who is safe from infection? What is to be done about it? Note what Detroit is doing!

They are not content with merely repeating, "Public Health is purchasable." *They have set out to purchase it.* If they can conquer tuberculosis, and from all indications, it looks very much that they are on the right track; then, the money expended will be a drop in the bucket compared to what is spent annually for sanatorium care. And, how about the saving of human lives? And, how about the saving of human suffering and all of the economic ills that go hand in hand with tuberculosis?

The American College of Chest Phys-

icians in annual Session at Atlantic City, passed a resolution endorsing the DETROIT PLAN.

Dr. Henry F. Vaughan, Dr. Bruce H. Douglas, Dr. Edward J. O'Brien, Paul de Kruijff, A. M. Smith, the Detroit News, and Radio Station W.W.J.; we salute you, and we say: "This is not Detroit's fight alone; it is the fight of every City and of every Township in the United States." As long as tuberculous patients with positive sputum travel from one City to another, no one is safe from infection. The DETROIT PLAN is pointing the way. Let us follow!

EDITOR'S NOTE

The above editorial has been released for publication by Murray Kornfeld, President of the Associated Editors of Tuberculosis Publications and the Managing Editor of *Diseases of the Chest*.

It will appear in approximately forty (40) sanatorium publications in the United States and Canada. The combined circulation of these publications is more than 60,000.

The Associated Editors of Tuberculosis Publications have undertaken to publish a syndicated article each month on current news in the tuberculosis field, and this article by Murray Kornfeld is the first in a series released by their Committee on Policy and Publicity.

The editors of *DISEASES OF THE CHEST* extend their congratulations to the members of the association upon their splendid undertaking and for the useful work that the individual editors have been doing over a period of years. The various San Mags are a splendid adjunct to our fight for the eradication of tuberculosis and they occupy a necessary place in our sanatorium life.

We are pleased to note that articles in these sanatorium publications are being reprinted from *DISEASES OF THE CHEST*. We are at all times ready to lend our assistance to worthy sanatorium publications and are therefore pleased to publish the above editorial.

C. M. H.

SOUTHERN TUBERCULOSIS CONFERENCE ONE of the outstanding meetings of the year, is the Southern Tuberculosis Conference. This year, Richmond, Virginia is the host City; and the program committee has prepared an interesting program for the meeting. For a list of the speakers and other particulars about the meeting, please turn to page 22. C. M. H.

DISEASES OF THE CHEST FOR a practical journal on Chest diseases we recommend "*Diseases of the Chest*." Reading time of papers published is from 5 to 15 minutes. Take advantage of subscription offer on page 32. C. M. H.

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