

PLEADED FOR TUBERCULOSIS HOME

Strong Arguments Made at Statehouse by Citizens of Norwich and New London

PRODUCTION OF A LIVING EXHIBIT

Norwich Youth Who Has Been Undergoing Treatment at Hartford Home, Presented to Committee—Mrs. Lanman Tells of Difficulty of Finding Places for Girls Afflicted with "White Plague."

(Special to The Bulletin.)

Hartford, March 15.—A crowded committee room marked the opening of the hearing Wednesday afternoon before the committee on humane institutions on the bills making appropriations for the establishment in New London and Middlesex counties of homes for the care and treatment of patients suffering with tuberculosis.

Many Present from Norwich.

Middlesex county citizens first had the floor, their hearing being first on the list, but much that was said in favor of the establishment of such an institution in that part of the state was applicable to New London county, which was represented by a large delegation from Norwich, several from New London, and various other towns within its borders.

Representative Knight of Salisbury, member of the commission which has supervision of the management of the three tuberculosis homes already established in the state—at Shelton, Meriden and Hartford—was the first speaker, reviewing for those present the history of the legislation leading to the authorizing of the homes and also the work that has been done at them.

practice of living out of doors that is prevalent at his home. He believed tuberculosis to be the easiest to cure of all dangerous diseases. He did not believe it necessary to send patients to the Adirondacks or Florida for treatment for this trouble. Proper treatment may be given nearer home.

New London county, however, has no such institution as is asked for. The principal thing is to get a place where patients may be treated without going far away, a place where they may have proper care and be content to remain.

C. D. Noyes Said It Would be a Godsend to Thousands.

C. D. Noyes, representing the Norwich Business Men's association, asked the committee to consider the interests of the eastern end of the state, which today has nothing in the way of such advantages which would be a Godsend to the thousands of people in that section, hundreds of whom are employed as operatives in the mills and factories. Mr. Noyes said that he felt that the appeal of Mrs. Lanman's should go straight to every heart in connection with this matter.

Representative Whiten of New London
Representative Lucius E. Whiten of

also the work that has been done at them.

Favors Homes in Every County.

Dr. Knight expressed himself as in favor of having homes in both New London and Middlesex counties, from which patients are now frequently sent for treatment to the state homes established in other counties. Dr. Knight gave expression to his belief that if such homes were established in every county in the state, which may be done under the present law, that the number of persons afflicted with the great white plague is so large in Connecticut that each would soon contain its capacity number of patients.

Morgan Spoke for New London.

Following those who spoke in favor of establishing a home in Middlesex county, Representative Percy Morgan of New London was first heard on behalf of New London county having an appropriation for the same purpose. The speakers were introduced by Dr. J. J. Donohue of Norwich.

Mr. Morgan called the attention of the committee, among other things, to the aversion of patients going far away from home to be treated for the disease. He said he was heartily in favor of the bill and hoped the committee would see fit to report it favorably.

Dr. Kimball for New London County.

Dr. R. W. Kimball, Norwich, said that New London county is far away from the sanatoria already established. There are many persons suffering from tuberculosis in that county. As a representative of the medical fraternity of his county and the board of trade of his city, Dr. Kimball said the sentiment was all in favor of establishing a home within the county, he was not particular in which section.

Mayer Dunn Speaks for Windham.

Mayer Dunn of Willimantic said a word in favor of the bill as an eastern Connecticut man, believing it would be a benefit to Windham county.

Dr. Thompson Tells of Ravages of Tuberculosis.

Dr. George H. Thompson, health of-

Representative Whitten of New London

Representative Lucius E. Whitten of New London talked along the line of the tremendous influence that the establishment of a county home would have in an educational way as to creating and stimulating interest for the prevention of tuberculosis.

Dr. Jennings Believes It Very Desirable.

Dr. George Jennings, president of the New London Medical society, said that the plan to have a sanatorium not far distant from the patients' homes was very desirable and he felt certain that it would have a great educational influence on all who became acquainted with its workings and methods.

Dr. Cassidy Says Physicians Favor It.

Dr. P. J. Cassidy said the physicians of New London county were all in favor of establishing a sanatorium in that section. He said he found it hard to get patients into sanatoriums in other parts of the state and also dwell on the advantage of having such an institution near at home, where they would not become lonesome and restless.

Dr. Brophy Cites a Specific Case.

Dr. E. J. Brophy, Norwich, also told of the difficulty of getting patients to go to a distant sanatorium for treatment, citing a specific case, when a tuberculosis mother is apt, because she will not go away for treatment, to infect her children with the disease. This woman would enter a sanatorium if it were near her home.

Dr. Graves of New London.

Dr. Graves of New London reiterated the difficulties experienced by physicians in getting their patients into sanatoriums and also spoke of the need of such an institution both for incipient and advanced cases of the disease under discussion.

Health Officer Brown.

Attorney A. M. Brown, health officer for New London county, told the committee that his statistics show that 250 cases of tuberculosis arise in that county each year and that a sanatorium is needed there.

Dr. D. J. Shahan Also in Favor.

Tuberculosis.

Dr. George H. Thompson, health officer, Norwich, told the committee that one in seven deaths is caused by tuberculosis and that it has been known and exacted tribute since the dawn of humanity, but it can be stamped out by proper methods.

Mrs. Lanman Speaks for Red Cross.

Mrs. Gertrude Lanman, representing the Red Cross society of Norwich, was the next speaker.

Of all the appeals made to the committee in behalf of such a home as is being asked for in New London county, that of Mrs. Lanman was most pathetic if not the most impressive. It illuminated the dire necessity of having such an institution, in a manner different from that convincingly conveyed by the speakers who considered the question from other standpoints.

Has 600 Girls Under Her Care.

Mrs. Lanman told the committee that she came before them without statistics, but as one who had 600 girls under her care and that she wished to plead for the home with all her heart.

Speaking of the large number of young women in whom she is interested, she told of the almost insurmountable difficulties she has experienced in getting those of them who become victims of the dread disease into sanitariums where they might receive proper care.

Girls Have Been Turned Away.

Sometimes when a lively, sweet, young friend has commenced to develop symptoms of the dread trouble she has sought to find a place for them in some institution where they might have proper care at a time when such care was most needed.

Sometimes the answer has been: "We have no place for your patient now, but may have in two months," and before the two months had passed the patient had declined, taken to her bed—died—there had been a requiem, the club girls had sent flowers and there had been laid at rest another whose young life might have been saved.

Four Girls Ill at Present Time.

Twelve young women who had been under Mrs. Lanman's friendly observation have died in the past few years in Norwich and four more are at the present ill with the same disease and probably facing death. The speaker told the committee of what work she had been able to do under the circumstances limiting her efforts. She closed with striking force that the committee report favorably on the bill which would mean so much to many sufferers in her home county. Her brief address was the special feature of the hearing, the great solicitude she expressed for those for whom she pleaded not failing to make a deep impression.

Judge Ayling Tells of Open-Air Treatment.

Judge William J. Ayling told the committee of the benefits that the

county could get and that a sanatorium is needed there.

Dr. D. J. Shahan Also in Favor.

Dr. D. J. Shahan, Norwich, representing the Norwich Medical association, endorsed all that had been said by other speakers.

Henry Peck Produces Living Exhibit.

Henry Peck, representing the Norwich board of trade, brought in a living exhibit, Robert Evans, to show what may be done for persons suffering with tuberculosis.

Young Mr. Evans, formerly a resident on Peck street, Norwich, and one of the special cases in which Mrs. Lanman is interested, is now as he has been for a year, a patient at the Hartford county home for tuberculosis patients. Since he was sent there, something more than a year ago, he has gained 18 pounds in weight and at the hearing his plump appearance and the healthy tan on his well rounded face was a convincing demonstration of the good that is being done in such institutions.

A Valuable Bit of Evidence.

He was a valuable piece of evidence in favor of New London county getting a home that others may be saved as he has been.

Judge Barnes Says We Have Salubrious Air.

Judge John H. Barnes, Norwich, said that the great white plague can be mastered. God has given New London county fine, salubrious air, and that a sanatorium established there is a duty owed to the many people who suffer or likely to suffer with the disease.

Francis J. Leavens Said We Need It.

Francis J. Leavens, Norwich, told the committee that his county needed a sanatorium—ought to have it, in fact.

Dr. LaPierre on White Plague's Ravages.

Dr. LaPierre, Norwich, said to the committee that the physicians of his county see whole families swept away by tuberculosis. A poor man who gets the disease in New London county must die. The physician found it almost impossible to get a place for such patients and that often they remain at home, with a liability of infecting other members of the family.

M. J. Kelley for the Working People.

M. J. Kelley, Norwich, represented the working people, and asked the committee to report the bill favorably.

Drs. Hemtle, Black and Douglas of New London were also heard briefly in favor of the bill.

Dr. J. J. Donohue made the closing remarks, stating that there were others present who would be heard also, except for the lateness of the hour.

No Rivalry Between Two Counties.

Notwithstanding that it was shown to the committee in no uncertain way that sanatoria are needed in the two counties asking for appropriations, neither New London nor Middlesex county is opposing the other in their efforts to secure the money required for such institutions. No opposition