

WVG 1

DR. W. V. GARRETT, sworn,, testified:

EXAMINATION BY MR. DALY.

Q Where do you reside?

A 271 S. Boulevard.

Q Are you a practising physician.

A Yes Sir.

Q How long have you been practising?

A I graduated in the class of 1894, at the Atlanta Medical College over on Butler Street.

Q Have you practised in Georgia all the time?

A Yes Sir, I have practised in Georgia all the time. I lived right on the State line three or four years, but practised back and forth right on the line.

Q Have you had any experience in practising medicine in mill villages?

A Yes Sir, been practising about seven years.

Q In what villages?

A I say villages, in the vicinity of the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills for about seven years.

Q Have you practised medicine in any other mill village?

A Not cotton mill village.

Q What are the general physical conditions of the people in that community in which you have practised, mill operatives especially?

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A Well, I would not consider the condition as being good.

Q Would you say it was bad? Very bad?

A Well, it is poor.

Q What diseases are prevalent?

A Well, they have had a good deal of pellagra and quite a good deal of tuberculosis. There has been a good deal of summer complaint among the children.

Q What other diseases?

A Those three are the diseases that cause more trouble than anything else. There are sometimes typhoid fever and things like that.

Q How many cases of typhoid fever have you seen in the mill village during the last year?

A I have not any file of that at my hand.

Q Have you seen as high as half a dozen cases?

A Yes Sir, I have saw more than that, I am pretty sure.

Q How many cases of summer complaint did you attend last summer?

A That is purely guessing again. I suppose I must have saw anyway 150 to 200 cases during the season.

Q It is a seasonal disease, is it?

A Largely so, it prevails in summer more than any thing else, diarrhoea, dysentary and things like that.

Q Were there many deaths from that disease?

A Not many.

Q What are the sanitary conditions in the village?

A Well, the sanitary conditions, up to a few months ago, were very poor there. There has been quite an improvement down there in the last few months.

Q Have you ever observed the sanitary conditions in mill villages?

A No Sir.

Q Will you state what you think of the present sanitary arrangements there?

A Well, the present sanitary arrangements seem to be fair.

Q Are the houses kept clean and are they well kept as a rule or not?

A Well, they are not what I would consider clean. They are not cleaned like they are in other sections of the city.

Q Taking a section of that kind, what do you think about it?

A I think at present the conditions are fair.

Q The condition of the houses inside is fair as well as outside; is that your idea?

A Yes Sir.

Q You have had a number of cases of pellagra, or have seen a number there; does that disease prevail more

in that particular section than in other sections in which you have practised?

A Yes Sir.

Q Is it among the people who are constantly changing from place to place, or is it more among those who have lived in the village from time to time? Do you know that?

A Well, they have had quite a number of people coming there from other mill towns, and there had been quite a number of cases developed from other parts of the country.

Q Would you say the conditions developed in this village were favorable to the development of this disease more than in other sections, or not?

A I think they are more favorable to the development of it than other sections of the city.

Q And that is owing to the lack of sanitation as compared with other parts of the city?

A Yes Sir.

Q Prior to the strike of May 20th, 1914, what were the sanitary conditions?

A They were bad.

Q How was the sewage carried away from there?

A They had a system of troughs. The houses were built on either side of the troughs. At the rear of the houses there is a little row of buildings used

for both purposes and extending down from that line of houses is an open trough that carried the sewage away.

Q That was open to the flies?

A Open to the flies and everything that came to it.

Q Did you have more summer complaint after the trough system was abolished than before, or less?

A Well, since that system has been over there I have done but little practise in the buildings. The system was put in so late in the season it was too late for a test of the change, to my mind.

Q Have you changed your residence so that you are farther away from the village than you were last summer?

A Yes Sir.

Q Have you been practising in the village the whole seven years you were there?

A I have done more or less practise there. Just a portion of the practise I have done was there during the last seven years..

Q Are they able to pay for your services?

A Well, the majority of these people are not. They are very poor pay.

Q To what extent does syphilis prevail?

A Why, we don't have a great deal of syphilis there, a few cases.

Q Other venereal trouble?

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A Yes Sir, there is a right smart of gonorrhoea.

Q Does that condition exist among men and women as well?

A Yes Sir.

Q And young girls have it?

A Yes Sir, some of the girls have it.

Q Have you practised in the camp, Doctor, since the camp was established?

A Yes Sir, I have done the majority of the practise since they came. I have done the majority of the camp practise; almost entirely.

Q Have a number of illegitimate children been born in the camp since they came out?

A Yes Sir.

Q How many cases do you think they have had?

A There has been one illegitimate birth and one miscarriage. I think that is all. I am almost sure of it.

Q You are satisfied there was nothing in the report that there were sixteen?

A I know that is not true.

Q Two you can account for?

A Yes Sir, all I can call to mind.

Q What is the physical condition of the people in the camp?

A It is good.

Q Does syphilis prevail there to any extent?

A No Sir.

Q Gonorrhoea?

A Very little.

Q What effect has this camp life had upon them?

A Their physical condition seems to be better now than when they went in the camp.

Q They seem to be well fed now?

A Yes Sir, seem to be well fed.

Q Are there any epidemics of any character?

A No Sir.

Q Do you know whether pellagra prevails in this mill village more than other mill villages?

A No, I do not.

Q What do you think about that? What is your opinion?

A I think people that have pellagra have it due to overwork and underfeed. I mean people who work long hours on poor diet, in certain conditions, seem to be more predisposed to it than other classes of people. That is my experience.

Q You have stated a number of cases came from other mill villages?

A Yes Sir, that is the history I get of these cases.

Q What percentages do you think of pellagra cases come from other mill villages?

A That is a hard question to answer because these people change about so much.

Q Do you consider that pellagra is an occupational disease peculiarly belonging to the cotton industry?

A I find it more among people who have been in that line of work than any other class of people I treat; very much larger.

Q Comparing the conditions of the mill village with the surroundings there, with that class of people which you practise among who were not in the village in other groups, --

A Yes Sir, I do a general practise all over that side of town.

Q -- What is the physical condition of the people in the remainder of the community? Is it better or worse than in the mill village?

A Yes Sir, and both as a class they are better.

Q They work in other occupations?

A Yes Sir.

Q Are they better paid?

A As an absolute fact I cannot say, but I believe they get better pay. Their condition and their appearances are better and they pay me better.

Q You do not know anything about the strike, do you. Doctor?

A Nothing direct. \_\_\_\_\_