

Calendar No. 1554

69TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
{ No. 1547

SADIE KLAUBER

FEBRUARY 17 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 21), 1927.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MAYFIELD, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 5232]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 5232) for the relief of Sadie Klauber, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass with the following amendments:

In line 5, strike out the words "during her natural life" and insert in lieu thereof "so long as she continues to suffer with tuberculosis."

In line 6, after the word "month," insert "from and after April 16, 1926,".

The bill provides for the payment of \$60 per month to Sadie Kaluber as compensation for permanent physical disability resulting from disease contracted in line of duty while employed in the United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex. It further provides that such monthly payments shall be paid through the United States Employees' Compensation Commission.

The following correspondence and affidavits are appended hereto and made a part of this report.

UNITED STATES VETERANS' HOSPITAL No. 55,
Fort Bayard, N. Mex., October 18, 1926.

HON. SAM G. BRATTON,
United States Senator, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

DEAR SENATOR BRATTON: In reference to conversation you had with Mr. Klauber at the hospital a few days ago, will try and give you the complete facts of the case.

Was married April 14, 1921, in New York, and the very next day Mr. Klauber left for Fort Bayard, N. Mex., where he has been a patient ever since. I arrived two months later and after a physical examination was employed as attendant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic. When I first entered the clinic, there were two other nurses besides myself, and on account of the shortage of nurses, the other two were transferred to ward duties, and I was left to do all the work.

It was necessary for me to give treatment to patients, some of whom had tubercular laryngitis, and it was necessary for me to spray their throats, and in doing so these patients would cough and gag right in my face, spreading the tubercle bacilli which I had to inhale.

For four years I was doing the work of a nurse and received a salary of \$60 per month, while other nurses engaged in similar work received \$95 per month.

Under the amendment of the employees' liability act, approved June 5, 1924, the following appears: "The term 'injury' includes, in addition to injury by accident, any disease proximately caused by employment." Is it not practically certain that my injury was caused by being run down from overwork and contact with tubercular patients? The records of the hospital will show that, owing to the shortage of nurses, I worked continuously without proper rest, recreation, or vacation. My vacation periods averaged about 8 days a year, instead of the 30 days allowed by law. The records will also show I worked every day, including Sundays and holidays, and at no time during my four years of employment was I given any time off on account of sickness.

The Veterans' Bureau requires their beneficiaries to furnish proof of their disabilities, and when furnished the bureau accepts their claims. The commission places the burden of proof on their beneficiaries, and after this has been furnished they can turn the claim down, as has been done in my case after being accepted once, and then denied after some girl had written a letter about me. Seven of the doctors here gave me affidavits that my disability was caused by the work performed at the clinic, and I am sure they understand the situation more so than the commission.

The commission states it was more probable that I contracted tuberculosis from my husband than the work I performed and contact with the patients. I have furnished proof that we never lived together at this post, but this they ignore, also sent an affidavit showing the last time my husband's sputum analysis was positive was March 1, 1923, and ever since then it has been negative, just 27 months prior to my breakdown.

The commission also ruled I was not entitled even to hospitalization, and since my stay as a patient I have been making good progress toward recovery. As an evidence, I lost 14 pounds while under employment, which weight has been gained since I was relieved from duty.

Copies of all affidavits sent to the commission will be made in the next few days and will be forwarded to your office at Washington, and believe you will find that the above statements are corroborated by affidavit evidence.

At this time I desire to express my heartiest thanks for your kind and generous help.

Respectfully,

SADIE KLAUBER.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Sadie Klauber, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have not lived with my husband, Samuel S. Klauber, from April 15, 1921, up to present date.

That on April 15, 1921, my husband, Samuel S. Klauber, left New York City, N. Y., being ordered to report at United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex. About two months later I left New York City, N. Y., to join my husband at Fort Bayard, N. Mex.

That on July 2, 1921, I became an employee of the above hospital as an assistant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic.

That during my entire stay at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., from July 2, 1921, up to the date I became sick, I occupied quarters with female employees.

That my husband, Samuel S. Klauber, was at all times a patient living in patients' wards and eating with them exclusively.

That employees and patients are segregated at this hospital.

SADIE KLAUBER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, Notary Public.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

This is to certify that during Samuel S. Klauber's hospitalization at United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., he has had a large number of sputum tests made for tubercle bacilli, some being positive and some negative. The last positive was found March 1, 1923, and all others since were negative.

J. P. WOOD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of August, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

I, Dr. S. T. Taylor, first being duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have known Mrs. Sadie Klauber for two years and know that she has been employed as attendant in the eye, ear, and nose and throat clinic at United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., during all of that time.

That it is my belief that acting in the capacity above named she has been obliged to assist in operations and in other treatments given to patients suffering from tuberculous laryngitis and other active tuberculous conditions.

That on June 22, 1925, I was one on the examining board which diagnosed Mrs. Klauber's condition as tuberculosis, pulmonary, moderately advanced, active.

That I further affirm my belief that Mrs. Klauber is suffering from tuberculosis, pulmonary, which could be traced to the character of work she has been doing in this hospital for three years. It is my further understanding that she had no disability at the time she began this work and in consequence I am inclined to believe that her present tuberculosis has developed under the strain and peculiar requirements of her duties as already outlined.

S. T. TAYLOR.

Subscribed and sworn before me the 28th day of July, 1925.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

I, Dr. O. F. May, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That Mrs. Sadie Klauber has been employed in the ear, nose, and throat department of this hospital under my charge for the past three years, and that during more than two years of this time she has been doing work that was formerly done by a nurse.

That as attendant she has assisted me in treating cases of tuberculous laryngitis where it is necessary to spray the throat and be exposed to possibility of infection from inhalation of tubercle bacilli.

I further affirm that while Mrs. Klauber did not request or receive any leave because of illness during the time she was employed in my department, she did show symptoms of exhaustion and other evidences of weakness for some time prior to her requesting an examination for possible existence of tuberculosis.

That I believe the nature of the work which Mrs. Klauber did in my department might easily explain the fact that she is now suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, a disability from which she apparently did not suffer prior to undertaking such duties.

O. F. MAY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of July, 1925.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Dr. B. R. Caldwell, first being duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That Mrs. Sadie Klauber has been employed in the ear, nose, and throat department of this hospital for the past two and one-half years, and that during more than two years of this time she has been doing work that was formerly done by a nurse.

That she acted as attendant to Doctor May, who was in charge of the ear, nose, and throat department, and that in such capacity she assisted in treating cases of tuberculous laryngitis, where it is necessary to spray the throat and be exposed to possibility of infection from inhalation of tubercle bacilli.

That I believe the pulmonary tuberculosis from which Mrs. Klauber is now suffering might be traceable to the character of work which she did while employed in this hospital.

B. R. CALDWELL.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of July, 1925.

EDITH R FLOWER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Dr. J. P. Wood, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have known Mrs. Sadie Klauber since July 2, 1921.

That for more than three years we were employed in buildings but a short distance apart. I saw her most every day. I never knew her to be sick or on leave of absence during this long period. She was scrupulously punctual and diligent in her duties as attendant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic. Her duties were many and exacting, as she did the work of nurses, whose duties called them to the wards.

It is my opinion that if Mrs. Klauber had had tuberculosis on entering the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic that it would have been discovered upon her examination for service.

It is my belief that Mrs. Klauber contracted tuberculosis while administering treatment to tubercular patients at Fort Bayard, and that the commission will be justified in granting her claim.

J. P. Wood.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of November, 1925.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Glenn A. Bulson, M. D., first being duly sworn according to law, depose and say:

That I have been a patient at Veterans' Bureau Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., since August 9, 1924, and that frequently during this time I have worked in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic at above hospital in the capacity of oculist principally but at times giving attention to nose and throat cases among the patient personnel.

That I have personally known and worked with Mrs. Sadie Klauber during the period immediately following my entrance into Veterans' Hospital No. 55, viz, since August 9, 1924, and that she has at times given throat, nose, and ear treatments under my direction to the patients of above hospital. This association continued until Mrs. Sadie Klauber was obliged to discontinue her work in the summer of 1925 on account of failing health.

It is my wish and intent to affirm that Mrs. Sadie Klauber was in very close contact with the active tubercular patients of above-mentioned hospital. Her work was efficient, painstaking, and in every way satisfactory. Said Mrs. Sadie Klauber was employed in clinic mentioned both as stenographer and

clinical attendant and relieved nurses who formerly cared for the patients under the direction of the physician in charge.

That Mrs. Sadie Klauber was in noticeably failing health at the time of her separation from the clinical duties in the eye and ear clinic of Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., in the summer of 1925.

That it is my opinion that the close contact of Mrs. Sadie Klauber with the active tubercular cases of this hospital undoubtedly provoked the active tuberculosis with which she now suffers.

GLENN A. BULSON, M. D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of November, 1925.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Dr. M. Pollak, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have been a member of the medical staff of the United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., since January 8, 1925.

That around the 1st day of June, 1925, I was called to examine Mrs. Sadie Klauber, attendant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic of this hospital. Upon my physical examination I found her to be suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis. Physical examination was confirmed by radiogram of the chest.

That according to my personal knowledge, Mrs. Klauber gave nose and throat treatments to the patients of this hospital. The majority of these patients being cases of open pulmonary tuberculosis, it is needless to say that during the uncontrollable cough with which the throat treatments are connected, abundant opportunity was given to carry a massive infective dose of tubercle bacilli to the attendant, while administering treatment.

That, although in the majority of cases, tuberculosis of the adults is an exacerbation of the disease acquired in childhood, newer investigations have proven that repeated exposures to massive infective doses of tubercle bacilli may, and do, break down the relative immunity acquired by going through the disease in childhood. It is therefore my opinion that the disease of Mrs. Sadie Klauber, even if this assumption can not be proven with exactness, is due to her work performed at this institution.

M. POLLAK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23d day of November, 1925.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

DECEMBER 16, 1925.

EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: The writer of this communication has had in his employ during his incumbency as medical officer in charge of United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., from July 26, 1924, until his leaving that station in June, 1925, Mrs. Sadie Klauber, who was employed as an assistant to the eye, ear, nose, and throat specialist at that station.

Mrs. Klauber's duties consisted of assisting the ear, nose, and throat specialist, the giving of routine treatment to all patients suffering with tuberculosis of the ear, nose, and throat in so far as her ability permitted and the discretion of the specialist in charge of this department directed. The type of work performed constantly exposed her to the inhalation of tubercle bacilli and made possible the contracting of tuberculosis to one who was susceptible, and it is the opinion of the writer of this communication that the confining nature of this work plus the unusual exposure to infection were contributory causes in the contracting of this disease.

Respectfully,

J. C. CORNELL, M. D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this 16th day of December, 1925.

ELLA I. HOWARD,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis.

My commission expires October 11, 1926.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

I, Patrick A. Sugrue, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have been stationed at United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., for a period of 25 years in the capacity of soldier and later as civil employee.

That I have known Mrs. Sadie Klauber since she was employed at this hospital, which is about four years.

That I am acquainted with the nature of her duties as attendant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic, through having been obliged to report frequently for the treatment of sinus.

That when I first came in contact with Mrs. Sadie Klauber she was associated with two other nurses with whom she cooperated in the requirements necessary in such a clinic.

That during repeated visits I came to realize that Mrs. Klauber had taken on additional duties upon reduction of nurse personnel in the eye department. On a later visit I learned that the full responsibility of the whole department in nurse duties were being carried on solely through her unremitting labors, the other nurse being assigned to duty on the ward.

That Mrs. Klauber was a good, conscientious worker, and was kept very busy due to the large number of patients hospitalized.

PATRICK A. SUGRUE.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of May, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

I, Alfred Larson, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have known Mr. Samuel S. Klauber and Mrs. Sadie Klauber since November 15, 1921, on which date I entered as a patient at this hospital, United States Veterans' No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex.

Ever since the above date I have been in intimate and close relationship with Samuel S. Klauber, husband of Mrs. Sadie Klauber, and I know it to be a fact that they have always lived apart, the said Samuel S. Klauber always occupying quarters with the employees and eating apart from his wife with the staff of this hospital at all times.

ALFRED LARSON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

County of Grant, ss:

I, Martin L. Nilsen, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

I affirm that I know Mrs. Sadie Klauber since June, 1921, and her husband, Samuel S. Klauber since April 19, 1921, when he entered United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., as a patient.

I know as a matter of fact that Mr. and Mrs. Klauber have lived apart from each other since his entrance to the above hospital, April 19, 1921, he always residing and eating with the patients in the ward, while Mrs. Sadie Klauber occupied quarters with the female employees, and at all times taking her meals with said employees.

MARTIN L. NILSEN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Edward L. Gilbert, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have been a patient at this hospital, United States Veterans No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., continuously since June, 1920.

That I became acquainted with Samuel S. Klauber since he entered the above hospital about five years ago and Mrs. Klauber while employed in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic.

That I know it to be a fact they were living in separate quarters, Mr. Klauber on the ward with men patients and Mrs. Klauber with the employees.

That Mr. Klauber had his meals in the mess hall provided for the patients, while Mrs. Klauber had her meals at the staff mess.

EDWARD L. GILBERT.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,
County of Grant, ss:

I, Raymond S. Warshaw, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

That I have been a patient at United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., for about three years.

That I am personally acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Klauber since they arrived at the above hospital.

That during this time they have not lived together due to the fact that Samuel S. Klauber was a patient and lived on the ward with the rest of the patients and had his meals with them, while Mrs. Sadie Klauber lived in quarters with the female employees and had her meals with the employees at the staff mess.

RAYMOND S. WARSHAW.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1926.

EDITH R. FLOWER, *Notary Public*.

My commission expires April 16, 1929.

KLAUBER, SAMUEL S.—E. C. C. No. 78-199

JUNE 1, 1926.

To whom it may concern:

The records of this office indicate that the above-captioned claimant has been a patient at this hospital continuously since April 19, 1921. During the entire period of this hospitalization he has been domiciled in a ward and all meals were taken at the mess provided for patients.

Respectfully,

A. J. HOSKINS, *Medical Officer in Charge*.

KLAUBER, MRS. SADIE—5/AJH/PSK/AB

JUNE 2, 1926.

To whom it may concern:

The records of the personnel office at this station indicate that Sadie Klauber was in Government employ from July 2, 1921, to June 7, 1925, both dates inclusive, and that during time herein specified she was domiciled in the barrack provided for the female employees at the hospital, and that all meals were taken during this period at the staff mess, which is provided for the boarding of the staff personnel.

The records further indicate that the resignation of Mrs. Klauber was prompted for the express purpose of entering the hospital for treatment on account of tuberculosis.

Respectfully,

A. J. HOSKINS, *Medical Officer in Charge*.

NEW MEXICO COTTAGE SANATORIUM,
Silver City, N. Mex., January 15, 1927.

UNITED STATES EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION COMMISSION,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Samuel S. Klauber, now a patient at United States Veterans' Bureau Hospital, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., has brought the case of his wife, Mrs. Sadie Klauber, to my attention. Refer file No. 172671.

I have examined Mrs. Klauber and found her suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis.

I understand the commission compensates for tuberculosis on the theory of massive infection, the infection deposited in line of duty.

Mr. Klauber has shown me numerous affidavits, amongst which is one dated July 23, 1925, showing Mrs. Klauber worked in the nose and throat clinic amongst tuberculosis patients at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., from July 2, 1921, to June 7, 1925, at which time she entered the same hospital for active tuberculosis. During this time she performed very many nose and throat treatments on these positive sputum cases, and no greater opportunity for massive infection is known than just such treatments frequently occurred.

On the other hand, she married her present husband April 14, 1921, and the very next day he left her in New York City, and came to Fort Bayard, N. Mex. She came there also two months later, and took that position in the throat clinic at the hospital. He lived entirely in a hospital ward, she living in barracks for female employees until her breakdown.

Now, massive infection, when it does occur in adults, results only after continuous, oft repeated, inhalation of tubercle bacilli. There is no better conceivable opportunity to become infected than giving nose and throat treatments daily to highly infective positive cases (open) of pulmonary tuberculosis, because of sudden, unheralded cough, directly into the face of the operator.

On the other hand, marital tuberculosis is uncommon. In fact, numerous investigators, Fishberg, etc., hold that active tuberculosis is more uncommon by statistics in the undiseased mate, where the other has active tuberculosis, than when both parties of the marriage state are free from tuberculosis.

Therefore it is my opinion in the case of Mrs. Sadie Klauber, that her active pulmonary tuberculosis was contracted directly by her work while in Fort Bayard, N. Mex., hospital. This opinion is strengthened one hundred times, when it is considered that she did not sleep or live in the same domicile with her husband, during this entire time, while she was daily and openly exposed by her work. I consider that a very grave injustice has been done Mrs. Klauber, when the cause of her tuberculosis is arbitrarily pinned to marrying a patient with tuberculosis in face of the above facts.

I positively believe that any board of tuberculosis experts would bear out my contentions as given above. I believe, in the name of fair play, that the case of Mrs. Klauber should be reopened for compensation, so that the present injustice shall not continue.

Very truly yours,

Dr. DAVID KRAMER,
Associate Medical Director.

UNITED STATES VETERANS' BUREAU,
Fort Bayard, N. Mex., January 18, 1927.

Hon. SAM G. BRATTON,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Reference is made to your letter of January 12, 1927, addressed to S. S. Klauber, relative to the above employees compensation commission claimant.

Claimant was admitted to this hospital December 3, 1925, per telegraphic authority of Crossman, medical director. Letter dated July 17, 1926, from Dr. B. W. Black, stated that claimant was not entitled to compensation or hospitalization as a beneficiary of the compensation act. On July 29, 1926, the medical officer in charge wrote the bureau to ascertain if claimant could be retained in this hospital, as an emergency, until her condition was such that she could be discharged without untoward effect. The commission authorized hospitalization for 15 days only. Claimant was retained in this until December 18, 1926, at which time was discharged as not in need of emergency hospitalization.

The last board examination of this claimant showed the following: Tuberculosis, pulmonary, chronic, moderately advanced, active "A." Recommendation: Continued hospitalization, treatment, and care.

It is believed the above information answers all questions in your communication.

By direction:

W. G. CASSELS, *Clinical Director.*

Forwarded; approved:

A. J. HOSKINS, *Medical Officer in Charge.*

STATE OF NEW YORK,
County of Franklin, ss:

Sadie Klauber, being first duly sworn, on her oath says:

That she is the beneficiary named and described in S. 5232, introduced in the Senate of the United States on the 12th day of January, 1927.

That she is absolutely without means for her support and maintenance, excepting such moneys as may be furnished and given to her by her husband, S. S. Klauber, an inmate of the United States Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, N. Mex.

That her said husband is also without means except a Government compensation of \$66.67 per month.

That neither affiant nor her said husband have any property or income of any kind or nature whatsoever, except the said \$66.67 per month compensation.

SADIE KLAUBER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1927.

[SEAL.]

MINA E. JARVIS,
Notary Public.

My commission expires March, 1928.

UNITED STATES VETERANS' BUREAU,
Washington, January 21, 1927.

Hon. RICE W. MEANS,
*Chairman Committee on Claims,
United States Senate.*

MY DEAR SENATOR MEANS: Further reference is made to your communication of January 13, 1927, relative to S. 5232, a bill proposing to pay Sadie Klauber, during her natural life, compensation at the rate of \$60 per month for a permanent disability resulting from disease contracted in line of duty while employed at the United States Veterans' Hospital, Fort Bayard, N. Mex.

The records of the bureau show that Mrs. Klauber was employed at the United States Veterans' Hospital, Fort Bayard, from July 2, 1921, to June 7, 1925, during which time she was an attendant in the eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic, performing in part duties of a nurse. On July 29, 1925, the medical officer in charge advised that Mrs. Klauber had been admitted to the hospital for examination and had been diagnosed tuberculosis, pulmonary, chronic, moderately advanced, active.

An application for compensation was filed with the United States Employees' Compensation Commission and compensation and hospital treatment were granted her from June 11, 1925, to April 16, 1926, on the ground that her tuberculosis was the result of her employment at the Fort Bayard Hospital. The commission discontinued her compensation after April 16, 1926, upon finding she had been married for about four years to a tuberculous patient at this hospital, the commission concluding that she had contracted tuberculosis from contact with her husband rather than from contact with the patients at the hospital. On August 13, 1926, the medical director of the Veterans' Bureau addressed a letter to the medical director of the Employees' Compensation Commission requesting further consideration of Mrs. Klauber's claim as she had acted as assistant to the eye, ear, nose, and throat specialist for over three years and did about one-half of his treatments, including all the routine work connected therewith. The commission's attention was called to the fact that there is no situation which a phthisiologist would consider as great a source of infection as the treatment room for tuberculosis of the throat, inasmuch as the coughing during

treatment is not only violent but as a rule explosive and experiments and tests have proven that a large number of tubercle bacilli are thrown into the air of the room at these times. On September 9, 1926, the chairman of the Employees' Compensation Commission advised that the claim had received further consideration but was disallowed in view of the marital relationship between the claimant and her tuberculous husband.

It is believed that the committee will be able to judge for itself the merits of this bill and the propriety of its passage.

A copy of this letter is inclosed for your use.

Very truly yours.

FRANK T. HINES, *Director.*

