Establishment and activities of tuberculosis section in Łódź in 1918–1939

SUMMARY

During the Second Polish Republic (1918–1939), the health care for residents of Łódź was exercised in four sectors: state, city, insurance and congregational. One of the urban sector’s institutions was the created in 1918 Sekcja Walki z Gruźlicą (SWG) Wydziału Zdrowotności Publicznej (WZP) Magistratu Miasta Łodzi (the Section Against Tuberculosis of the Department of Public Health of the Municipality of the City of Łódź). The Section was governed by Rada Centralna SWG (the Central Council of the Section Against Tuberculosis) located at ul. Dzielna 28/30. In the 1920s, three clinics of the Section were founded, which diagnosed and treated the sick of the downtown districts of Śródmieście, Bałuty and Górna. Under the supervision of the clinic, there were people suffering from tuberculosis, their family members, including the children. The clinics ran the oedema station, a sputum testing lab, the vaccination with the BCG agent station and places of diagnosis and treatment of tuberculin. The nurses working for the clinic conducted health interview surveys among ill people. The Headquarters of the Section cooperated in the field of observation and hospitalization of patients with hospitals, preventoria and sanatoria of the WZP and with congregational hospitals. The Section was financed from the city budget and additionally, in a small part, from the budgets of Kasa Chorych (Healthcare Fund) and Ubezpieczalnia Społeczna (Social Insurance).

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