

Memorandum

EXPENDITURE, MONTREAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Up to and including 1926, the Director of the Department prepared his estimates and submitted these to the Executive Committee. The latter then altered them, without consulting the Director, and presented them with all others to the City Council.

This did not mean that the money voted was available. The Director would be instructed to estimate his expenditure for two or three months and the sum named would be voted by the Executive Committee. Again, this money was not all spent, because positions were left vacant.

As an example - For 1926, the Director asked for \$364,640.00. The Executive Committee authorized him to expend \$337,448.00, but as positions were kept vacant, all that was spent was \$286,022.82. In other words, some \$50,000.00 was left unexpended on health work and devoted to other things.

For 1927, the Council simply voted a lump sum for all civic departments and it is left to the Executive Committee to expend as much or as little as they please on Health work. There are nine vacancies on the nursing staff at present.

Suggestion:-

That the Provincial Government be asked to consider an amendment to the Quebec Public Health Act requiring cities of certain sizes to vote a minimum sum per capita to be expended on Health work.

January 25th, 1927