

(b) Research Leading to Prevention.

A year and a half ago the National Committee embarked upon a research enterprise that would make possible the launching of a programme of prevention. It was decided to commence work in collaboration with McGill University, Montreal, and the University of Toronto. \$50,000 per annum are being spent in these two centres and a research staff has been organized composed of eminent Canadian scientists. Intensive studies are being conducted that will lead us to a better understanding of conditions that are essential for the healthy mental and physical development of children. Our workers are enthusiastic in their endeavors and it would seem that important contributions will be made to scientific knowledge in the realm of mental hygiene. The Medical Director is of the opinion that upwards of 25% of mental and nervous disorders are either caused or accentuated by unsatisfactory home and school methods that are now in vogue in child rearing. It is possible that Canada will assume a degree of world leadership in fighting mental abnormality as a result of research studies.

The sub-committee in charge of the Research programme in Montreal consists of officers of the National Committee and of McGill University and, in Toronto, the sub-committee is composed similarly of representatives of our National organization and of the university.

The research work to be successful depends upon many factors. It is all important, among other things, to have the services of men and women who are well trained for the specific studies they undertake. Through the kindness of the Rockefeller Foundation and of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, a dozen Canadian s will have the advantage of training under fellowships in the United States and Europe.

A new enterprise of significance is the inauguration, in an experimental way, of parent instruction in child rearing. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has made an initial grant for the purpose and the work will commence immediately in affiliation with research activities in Toronto and Montreal.

Finance

It is probable that the National Committee will always be in need of new financial support. At the moment, however, no financial crisis seems to be impending. The generosity of subscribers to the Lady Byng of Vimy Fund for Mental Hygiene, of the Federal Government and of Foundations are making possible the meeting of our immediate financial needs. The Medical Director, with the endorsement of the Board of Directors, is adopting a financial policy that will make it unnecessary to seek renewed subscriptions from previous subscribers for the next ten years. This statement of course does not apply to governments, foundations or life insurance companies and implies the fulfilment of pledges that have already been made by subscribers.

Conclusion

The Medical Director wishes to thank the officers and supporters of the National Committee for their untiring efforts in promoting the Mental Hygiene Movement in Canada. The President, Dr. C. F. Martin, has