

HEALTH DEMONSTRATIONS

Experience has shown that demonstrations are an effective way to stimulate public interest and, at the same time, to prove, in a local sense, what results can be obtained from the proper expenditure of money on health work.

The Health League has, for these reasons, carried on several demonstrations. In addition, the demonstration does a tremendous amount of good for the people in the area or in the group where it is being carried on. Also, through the demonstration, facts are collected.

Our major demonstration, carried on at the ^{own} French Health Centre, has been most successful. The details will be covered in Doctor Baudouin's report. Here, however, it should be stated that this demonstration has proven that Montreal will respond to an adequate health programme just as have other large centres. This Health Centre was conducted in co-operation with the University of Montreal and has provided for the field training of graduate nurses registered in the public health nursing course at the University. In this way, the Health League has contributed to the provision of trained health workers, who are so much needed, particularly in Montreal.

^{our English} ~~The Courcel Street Health Centre~~ was carried on for too short a period to allow for results to be shown statistically. This Health Centre was extensively used. In one year, 970 homes, with 71 ante-natal cases, 882 infants, 421 pre-school children, and 209 tuberculosis cases, were regularly supervised through 14,468 home visits; there ~~were held~~ ^{conferences were held} 293 clinics with an attendance of 4,036. This is evidence of the extensive work done during what was unfortunately a limited time.

For two summers, in conjunction with the Child Welfare Association and the Protestant Board of School Commissioners, a ^{successfully operated and practical} ~~summer day camp~~ was demonstrated.

Public interest in Diphtheria prevention may be traced to the opening of two immunization centres by the Health League in January, 1926. This was accompanied by a general programme of educational publicity. This demonstration ~~may be called a success~~ because today the Department of Health ^{itself} has assumed responsibility for this service, ~~and have opened centres for this work.~~

From January, 1925, to February, 1928, tuberculosis, a major health problem in Montreal, has been consistently dealt with. During this period, through a staff of public health nurses, we had, under regular supervision, between 1,300 and 1,400 homes where there was or had been a case of tuberculosis. Much valuable information was collected and, at the same time, the need for public health nurses for tuberculosis work was ^{successfully} ~~demonstrated with gratifying results.~~