

Committee is an enlightened, sound and statesmanlike policy—to develop enduring centres of research activity with practical application in university centres in Canada.”

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“I am sure it is the object of this Committee to work itself out of existence at the earliest possible time—to turn over to universities the activities of research, training and teaching; and to turn over to governments the work of making mental hygiene an integral, essential, organic part of the life of the country.”

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“The mental hygienist is interested in helping the individual in all questions concerning his environment and mental situation, but he considers large principles and the protection of large groups rather than the care of this individual or that individual.”

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“I visited a school in this city—a delightful school where normal children between two and five years of age are studied. I have not been so interested since I went to see the chimpanzees that we have in Yale. It is thought that the study of the behaviour of chimpanzees may throw some light on an interpretation of undergraduate problems in Yale.”

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“At the outset, mental hygienists concerned themselves with the insane. They took up the problem of insanity because it was pressing and appealing. There are more hospital beds in the United States, and I suppose in Canada too, devoted to mental cases than to all other cases combined. Many of these cases were being taken care of in unkind ways. You have all read Mr. Clifford Beers' book entitled, 'A Mind That Found Itself' and how it served to stir the public to a need of better treatment of people in hospitals for the insane. It was largely due to this book that the National Committee in the United States was organized.”

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“Of late years, we have been establishing juvenile courts and conducting the proceedings in these courts in an illegal way—you have no idea how human you can make institutions if you stop being legal. At the present time, it is considered a poor court that does not use a psychiatrist or a psychologist who is able to assist the judge in interpreting a given case and to assist the probationary officer when the child is placed on parole.”

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“You cannot study defective people without coming sooner or later to those who are not defective. I had a friend who visited an asylum and talked with the people freely, and he came to the conclusion that they seemed more intelligent than some he knew outside. He said to one, 'I don't understand why you are here, you seem perfectly sane.' The man made this extremely intelligent reply—'We are simply in the minority.' That is all insanity is—you cannot go very far in mental hygiene before you come to something which is very much like normality. In fact, mental hygiene has become interested in normality—in learning how normal children and grown-ups behave.”