

MEMORANDUM ON RADIUM INSTITUTE.

The Premier of this province, having indicated his intention of giving substantial assistance to research in the properties and medical uses of radium, it is respectfully suggested that the most effective way of giving this assistance will be for the Government to expend the whole amount of the proposed grant in the purchase of radium, of which one gram will cost approximately \$105,000.00, and that the Government entrust this radium to a committee of specialists, who may, if desirable, be called "The Radium Institute of the Province of Quebec".

The committee, or Institute, should be composed of distinguished surgeons and physicians, both French and English, who have already had experience in radium work. There should also be on the committee at least one member who has attained distinction in Pure Science research on Radioactivity. The members should serve without pay, and the duty of the committee should be to control the distribution of radium emanation among the research institutions, hospitals and individual physicians of the province in such a way as to serve the best interests of the public.

NOTES:

- I. One gram of radium, costing approximately \$100,000., is the smallest quantity which is likely to prove effective. For example: The Radium Institute of New York has four grams, The Middlesex Hospital, London, five grams, and so on, but several successful institutes in other parts of the world have only a single gram, and this amount, if properly cared for and conserved, will supply sufficient emanation for medical and scientific research and also for hospital use in Montreal, and a certain amount will also be available for distribution among competent private practitioners throughout the province.
- II. It should be noted that radium itself is not directly used in medical work, nor to any great extent in Pure Science, but that it gives off an emanation, or gas, which possesses radioactive properties. This emanation is collected by the use of suitable apparatus and methods and sealed in small glass tubes for use as required, the original radium in the meanwhile, without appreciable diminution in quantity or activity, continuing to produce more of the emanation.