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*Le ministre de la Santé nationale et du Bien-être social au
sous-secrétaire d'État associé aux Affaires extérieures*

*Minister of National Health and Welfare to Associate
Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, November 24, 1944

Dear Mr. Wrong,

In reply to your confidential letter of 20th November,[†] and following meeting held 23rd November which was attended by Dr. Geo. Davidson of this Department, with respect to international health organization in immediate relationship to work to be undertaken by UNRRA, our attitudes are as follows:

1. Sanitary conventions conducted by UNRRA may be accepted as a temporary expedient.

2. The formation of a permanent international health organization is essential.

3. The international health organization should be responsible for the collection and dissemination of epidemiological and technical information and for the provision of technical advisory services.

4. It is not considered advantageous to continue the Office internationale d'hygiène publique at Paris for the collection and dissemination of epidemiological information including the responsibility for conducting sanitary conventions, as this may well prove to be a duplication of the work of the international health organization leading to differences of opinion and confusion.

5. It is the opinion that all matters relating to public health should be the responsibility of one internationally constituted body.

6. It is suggested that the Department of Biological Standards for the National Institute for Medical Research of the Medical Research Council, Hampstead, London, England, should continue to act as custodian and for the purpose of distribution of biological standards until such time as this question has been determined by international agreement.

7. The continuance of the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau would be advantageous to Canada. Its activity should be confined to health matters relating to the Americas and should function in collaboration with the international health organization.

8. It is not agreed that records, equipment and staff should be automatically transferred to the new health organization. Before a decision is reached in regard thereto, the question should be thoroughly discussed.

9. Membership of the commission should be confined to members of the Public Health Services provided that expert advisers may be engaged when needed but that such expert advisers shall not have administrative responsibility.