

holme has edited a number of medical works. He personally undertook a survey covering all the European countries and edited a series of studies called International Studies on the Relation between the Private and Official practice of Medicine with special reference to the Prevention of Disease. In volume one he discusses medicine in the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In the second volume he deals with Belgium, France, Italy, Jugoslavia, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia. In volume three he deals with England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. He was entrusted with the special mission of making a survey of and an inquiry into the medical system as it operates in Russia. He and his associates travelled all over that country, visiting all the states and the large cities. His book is a very interesting one. He lays down a number of postulates as pertinent to the proper application of medicine. In general they coincide with those laid down by a group of medical men in the United States. I shall read these postulates and then state his observations.

1. The health and therefore the hygienic and medical care of every person in a community is a matter of concern and responsibility not only for himself, but also for every other person in the same community.

2. An organized community through its government is called on to concern itself with the practical application of all the known laws of health and of all remedial measures which will help in the restoration of health.

3. There is a lamentable amount of inadequacy—

Listen to that.

—and discontinuity in the medico-hygienic provision for the community—

Very true indeed.

—also that for a high proportion of the total sick, adequate medical care necessitates the organization of measures and of institutions beyond what the individual medical practitioner can provide.

To that I would say, "Hear, hear" without any hesitation.

4. For a large section of the population, in all countries, the cost of sickness is overwhelmingly great. . . .

"Hear, hear," again.

The cost of hospital treatment is beyond the means of a large proportion of the total population.

5. In order to supply adequate medical aid for all, either private charity, or provident insurance, or taxation . . . must be forthcoming in a continuous, even and adequate stream. No person should be allowed to die or suffer serious harm through the lack of shelter or food or medical aid.

6. Economy and wisdom alike demand that each illness shall be investigated and treated socially as well as medically. . . .

[Mr. Howden.]

7. Treatment should be available to the fullest extent necessitated by the patient's illness, irrespective of his financial circumstances.

8. Prevention is always more important than provision.

On those postulates concerning the application of medical science Sir Arthur Newsholme made a survey of all the countries of Europe. His findings are summed up in this final paragraph:

Measured against the postulates set out earlier in this chapter, it would seem fair to conclude that soviet Russia has, at least in many respects, come nearer to fulfilment of these postulates than any of the other countries studied by us or of which we have knowledge. Indeed, soviet medicine is largely based on the general propositions which are here enunciated as standards for adequate medical care of all people.

Now I am not advocating communism, and I am not a socialist particularly. But this is not the only book which contains reports along the same line; there are about a dozen such publications. I believe this writer to be beyond reproach; he is an English knight who has been intimately connected with the British government; he was sent to make a survey and an inquiry, and he made it. Russia is the only country of which we have knowledge where there is real, honest-to-goodness state medicine, one hundred per cent state medicine, the sort of state medicine which provides adequate coordinated care for all citizens of the country. The difference between state medicine and medicine as it is practised to-day can be explained in this way. Every one has heard of the Mayo clinic; we know there are clinics in New York, Montreal and other cities, possibly in the civic hospital of Ottawa. When you adopt a form of state medicine, there is a clinic at the disposal of every man in the land; he does not have to depend on this or that doctor, however capable or however inadequate he may happen to be; a systematized, coordinated service of medicine has, therefore, that distinct advantage.

One not infrequently hears insinuations and suggestions to the effect that when you have a body of publicly paid medical men, you do not get results. Well, if one cannot get results from paid medical men, one should not get results from a paid civil service, or from paid preachers, to whom the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. McIvor) referred, or from any man who has a guaranteed, assured salary, because those people do not need to care. I should like to read an extract which seems to me very much to the point:

It is frequently argued that whole-time salaried appointments are destructive of personal initiative and inhibitory to continued