

Dr. MOORE: I think that we need the opportunity for a little more supervision in the work that is done in the field. Until recent years the headquarters administration has been in charge of one doctor with four helpers in the office, one of whom was an Indian, and a very valuable employee.

Mr. MACNICOL: A man or a woman?

Dr. MOORE: A man. He has been there about twenty years. I was appointed assistant superintendent. This is the first time there has been more than one doctor at headquarters. More than that, I think we need more adequate field inspection. I do not have sufficient opportunity to go out into the field and see what is going on frequently enough. We should have more facilities for coordinating our medical program.

The CHAIRMAN: Dr. Moore, at this point you might put your memorandum into the record.

Dr. MOORE: Very well, Mr. Chairman.

Memorandum:

THE DIRECTOR

re: Medical Facilities in B.C.

I wish to refer to the certified copy of a report of a Committee of the Executive Council, British Columbia Government, dated April 6, 1944 on the file hereunder and to which the Superintendent of Welfare and Training has replied regarding education. The following report concerns medical problems in this province.

There is room for marked improvement in the Department's health program in British Columbia. With the exception of Doctor Atkinson, who is in charge of the Vancouver Health Unit, we have not a single full time medical officer in that province. The position of senior medical officer for British Columbia became vacant on the retirement of Doctor McQuarrie and Dr. P. S. Tennant is on leave of absence for military service. We have also an established position at Vanderhoof that we have been unable to fill. Probably in British Columbia as elsewhere in Canada the major health problem is to find an adequate program for the control of tuberculosis. There are two full time doctors on the staff of Coqualeetza Indian Hospital.

In 1943.

Total deaths T.B. all races.....	583
Indian Deaths.....	186
Deaths from T.B. other than Indians.....	397
Mortality rate per 100,000 population	
Indian Rate.....	691
Bal. of province exclusive of Indians.....	47

At the present time there are 300 Indians under treatment for tuberculosis in the province. Of these 178 are in the Coqualeetza Indian Hospital and 10 are in the Queen Alexandra Solarium, Victoria. Only this number can be considered as being under satisfactory treatment. Of the balance 35 are in preventoria operated in conjunction with the residential schools at Mission, Cranbrook and Alert Bay and 77 are being cared for in various general hospitals, the majority being at Port Simpson and Hazelton with others being treated at Vanderhoof and Smithers. This latter group is getting little beyond bed rest and isolation.

The accepted criterion in any program is that there should be three patients under treatment for every death that occurs within a year. It will be seen that accommodation should be provided for 600 Indian patients if an energetic attack on this disease is to be made.