

Welfare shows that in the eleven years from 1935 to 1945 inclusive, some \$4,500 has been spent on research. During the same time 142,000 people died from cancer. As far as I can make out, this government has spent no other money on cancer research. The King George V silver jubilee fund has been in existence for twelve years. The moneys subscribed to that fund by public subscription amount to \$490,000, according to the minister last evening.

Mr. MARTIN: Approximately.

Mr. TIMMINS: The National Cancer Institute of Canada was formed in January of this year; and according to the minister's statement last evening it will receive from the fund \$150,000 a year for the next three years. That will pretty well use up the fund. The point I wish to make is, what does the government itself intend to do? What contribution is the government going to make to this all-important subject of cancer research? Last evening the minister stated the matter correctly when he said that he had no official connection with the National Cancer Institute of Canada, and that goes for his department as well; so that the institute is on its own.

I take it that all cancer research in Canada will come directly or indirectly under the national cancer institute. With respect to the return to which I referred for a time last evening, some figures were given by the minister or his department on May 29, 1947, having to do with the amount of money spent in cancer research through the national research council; and as I have pointed out already, that sum was less than \$4,500. As I understand the procedure, having regard to the national cancer institute which has been brought into being, it will be that the laboratories of the various medical colleges throughout Canada, institutions having proper facilities, and any person qualified to conduct medical research and having the necessary facilities, may apply for a grant in aid, and, if approved, the money will be granted.

But where is the money to come from? From press reports it appears that part of this annual sum of \$150,000 will go for administration, and to the Canadian cancer society for public education. In addition, there is the administration of the fund, the setting up of local administrative centres, a national cancer survey; and then the remainder which according to press reports would amount to about \$90,000, will be for research. I am pointing out that, of this \$150,000 about which the minister told us last night, according to the material I have, there will be only about \$90,000 for cancer research in 1947.

[Mr. Timmins.]

It seems perfectly obvious that the universities of Canada which have already taken up this work, private scientists who have the equipment and facilities for doing the work, and research laboratories which will apply for a share of the fund, will more than absorb this paltry balance of \$90,000.

I have it on good authority from a friend of mine in Toronto who is interested in the work, that already applications for upwards of \$200,000 for research purposes have been applied for this year by responsible institutions. So that it is perfectly clear that the \$90,000 which will be left in the hands of the institute will not be nearly enough with which to make much research progress this year. It will be a national calamity and will deal a dreadful blow to the work of the national cancer institute if in the first year of its existence the funds available are inadequate to the extent of not making it worthwhile for the various institutions to prepare a programme to take on the work, and to employ young scientists to do the work over a period of years. I believe the responsibility to find the money with which to find the cause and cure of cancer, over and above the sum which has already been subscribed by the people of Canada, rests upon the dominion government.

It seems to me important to point out that this research work cannot be handled on a year to year budget basis. Research laboratories require the brains of the best young scientists in Canada. We do not want to let them slip over to the United States where they can probably get larger salaries and more continuity of employment, through our shortsightedness in not providing the institute with a fund which will be sufficient to permit it to look ahead and to plan for, let us say, five years.

Last night the minister mentioned a three-year plan. He mentioned it only in respect of paying over the money from the King George V fund to the institute. But I am suggesting there must be continuity to the extent of a five-year plan, if the national cancer institute is to survive, and if it is to be useful to the people of Canada. The fact of the matter is that the government cannot afford to let the institute only flutter along in 1947. Any laboratory, any medical college, any research bureau permitted to take part in this work should be placed in a position to lay down a comprehensive plan so that they can tell young scientists who engage in this work that there is some continuity of employment for them.

Let us assume that the minimum sum required in 1947 or in any future year by