

LAURENTIDE HEALTH SERVICE

PART III - MEDICAL SERVICE

COOPERATION WITH GRAND'MERE MEDICAL PROFESSION

The desire of the Laurentide Company to be of service to the local doctors has been touched upon in the sections dealing with the Hospital, X-Ray Department, etc.

From the standpoint of the Medical Service, the most complete consideration of the interests of the Grand'Mere physicians is the basis upon which this work has been established.

The Company Physician is a collaborator with them and not a competitor. His services, as far as sick employees are concerned, are limited to consultations with the patient's family physician. Only under exceptional circumstances is the Company Physician permitted to render assistance to serious accident cases. His duties relate primarily to the problems of preventive medicine and the medical aspects of group insurance.

Experience has amply demonstrated that health activities of the sort embodied in the program of the Laurentide Company ultimately and invariably increase the income and advance the interests of the general practitioners who reside in the communities where such work is carried on.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The fundamental facts about correct and healthful living are known by only a limited number of individuals and it is essential that the scientific knowledge of the few be made available for the many.

No matter what particular phase of the health field one considers, in the last analysis progress will depend upon the personal hygiene of the individual, his food, his health habits, etc.

The difficulty of teaching adults the essential principles of hygiene is relatively great, whereas children are teachable in matters of health as much as in anything else.

The health educational program of the Medical Service is based primarily upon the fact that the training of school children in the subjects of personal hygiene and the inculcation of proper health habits during school life are the most important undeveloped measures for permanently improving the health and contributing to the welfare of the people.

It does not, however, neglect health educational activities for adults.

The methods include: (1) classroom talks on health topics; (2) health lessons, graphs, games, rhymes, plays and posters; (3) individual instruction; (4) exhibits; (5) newspaper articles; (6) public meetings at which addresses are given and moving pictures shown.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

The objects of and benefits derived from these examinations are of the greatest importance and may be summarized as follows:

- (1) Early discovery of threatened disease while still preventable or at least curable.
- (2) Discovery of any existing conditions making the employee prone to accidents or to cause accidents to others.
- (3) Protection of the working force from communicable diseases.
- (4) Prevention of diseased applicants from going to work when employment of any kind would be injurious to them.
- (5) Discovery of employees with physical or mental handicaps and their transfer to work which will not be hazardous but which will be adequately remunerative.
- (6) Reduction of both temporary and permanent incapacity through referring to their own physicians all employees in need of medical or surgical treatment.
- (7) Reduction of the cost to employees of their health insurance.