

with little prospect of adequate care, because of the overcrowded conditions of the hospitals, making it impossible to give the necessary long continued care needed for their complete recovery.

I heartily endorse Miss Whitton's contention that our infant mortality can be greatly lowered, preserving a far larger proportion of survivors than is now the case. Increased pre-natal work for the mother, which makes for the preservation of both the mother and the child, is invaluable, and this service has barely touched the fringe of possibilities in this line of public health service.

The provision of health services in the schools is invaluable in correcting health conditions among children, such as preventive work by early application of remedial measures before the general health of the child is undermined by neglect of such services, such as dental attention, heart, lungs, sight and hearing tests, and early detection of T.B. conditions, diagnosis of mental capacity, with provision of special classes for the mentally handicapped, who, if properly educated, may become perfectly self-supporting, worthwhile citizens. Much would be accomplished were adequate health measures assisted by Governments, Federal and Provincial, provided throughout Canada to aid municipal and private organizations in their efforts to provide adequate health safeguards, the children that we already have would be preserved to a far larger degree because of sound physical health.

Improvement in housing conditions in large cities, open spaces for playgrounds, would contribute towards the good health and preservation of our present generation of children.

In 1927, out of a group of 200 families, whose children were being cared for in our Day Nursery in Montreal, it was found that of that number 93 families lived in one room apartments, namely, single rooms with gas plate, most of these types of rooms have toilet facilities common to the entire house, and the average rental per week is \$4.62. Of these 93 families, 43 had young babies and a majority of the families had from two to four children. How can we hope to bring to a healthy maturity children brought up in such conditions.

In conclusion, speaking on behalf of Social Workers, we believe that adequate Government support to assist in the preservation of Canada's children already born and to be born, by the provision of necessary health services, will accomplish a better piece of social work of benefit to Canada's future welfare, and at far less cost than the proposed scheme with its unknown financial expenditures, liable to be far in excess of the estimated amount given, the benefits of which are greatly questioned by those who have already experimented with Family Allowances.

I wish to place on record my hearty endorsement of the economic and ethical aspects so ably dealt with by Miss Whitton in her argument, and would stress the provision of health and allied services as a proved method of preserving our children, rather than launching into such a scheme as the proposed Family Allowances with its underlying dangers which Miss Whitton has detailed at length."

ROBERT EDWARD MILLS, called and sworn.

By the Chairman:

Q. What is your name in full, Mr. Mills?—A. Robert Edward Mills.

Q. And your position?—A. Director, Children's Aid Society, Toronto. Mr. Chairman, I have to ask your indulgence a little, because of a cold in the head and because of the fact that I have not been able to do as the two previous speakers have done, that is, write out what I have in mind to say.

I would like to explain that while this deputation that is before you is representative of the social workers of Canada, I am present here also as representative of a representative group of social workers in Toronto.

[Mrs. Mildred Kensit.]