

Mr. MONTEITH (*Perth*): That is producing photographs to be used in pamphlet form; is that right, Mr. Adams?

Mr. BROOME: Under the Food and Drugs Act?

Mr. ADAMS: It is not necessarily for that. Their work would come under the heading of information services, but it is information not for outside use; it is for our own departmental use.

Mr. BROOME: Everybody could be information services. I mean, the deputy minister could be information services to the minister.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there anything further on this?

Mr. McDONALD (*Hamilton South*): On a new subject, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: On a new subject.

Mr. McDONALD (*Hamilton South*): Last week I wanted to ask some questions about the disabled of Canada. What responsibility has this department with regard to the rehabilitation of disabled people in Canada?

Mr. MONTEITH (*Perth*): Dr. Davidson, can you outline our approach to this matter?

Dr. DAVIDSON: Mr. Chairman, the responsibility of the department falls into two parts. First, the responsibility for administering, from the point of view of the federal authority, the Disabled Persons Act, which is the payment of money benefits on a means test basis to persons who can qualify under the disabled persons legislation.

Secondly, apart from that, the responsibility for providing, through the health branch of the department—and I would like Dr. Charron to speak on this—assistance and support through the national health grants program and through a number of other channels to the provinces, in order to enable them to carry out the rehabilitation program which is in existence at the provincial level so far as the health aspects of rehabilitation are concerned.

As I am sure you know, Mr. McDonald, the rehabilitation program at the federal level is centered, so far as the administration of the non-medical services is concerned, in the Department of Labour, under the office of the coordinator of rehabilitation. But the medical aspects of rehabilitation are directed or supervised, so far as the federal responsibility is concerned, by medical officers of the health branch of the department.

I think Dr. Charron might speak on that.

Mr. McDONALD (*Hamilton South*): What studies, if any, has this department made with respect to the rehabilitation of handicapped in Canada—or is this all left to the provincial level?

Dr. DAVIDSON: In 1951, prior to the development of a nation-wide rehabilitation program, a national conference on rehabilitation was held in Toronto. I believe it was held in February 1951.

Mr. McDONALD (*Hamilton South*): Who attended that conference? Was this the medical profession?

Dr. DAVIDSON: No, this was a conference called by the three departments of the federal government, the Ministers of National Health and Welfare, Veterans Affairs and the Department of Labour, since there are aspects of this program which relate to at least two of the departments in civilian terms and since the experience of the Department of Veterans Affairs was considered to be—rightly—relative to the development of a program in this field.

To that conference we invited representatives of a number of provincial government departments which had various kinds of interest in the program, as well as the representatives of a large number of national, non-governmental associations, notably the Canadian mental health association, and so on, and