

"(6) That the Executive Committee be directed to arrange for the calling and holding of the first meeting, and that thereafter the Advisory and Consultative Committee arrange the order of its own procedure."

At a combined meeting of the Executive and Finance Committees of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene, Mr. D. A. Dunlap, Dr. C. K. Clarke and Dr. C. M. Hincks were appointed as a sub-committee to consult with the Canadian Red Cross Society regarding co-operation. With the passing of the above resolution, there will be from now on active co-operation between the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene and the Canadian Red Cross Society, and it is felt that with the support of the Canadian Red Cross Society, more active progress will be made along the lines of mental hygiene in Canada.

OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION OF MENTAL DISEASES AND UNIFORM STATISTICAL REPORTS ON INSANITY.

PROGRESS along the lines of mental diseases has been seriously handicapped by the unfortunate absence of accurate scientific information which would warrant definite conclusions regarding many matters of far-reaching importance. We naturally turn to the published works of recognized authorities whose observations are based presumably on a wide experience with the subject under discussion. We soon find ourselves overwhelmed with theories and confronted with a startling absence of established facts. The text books are filled with unsubstantiated statements regarding the frequency of various forms of insanity and the recovery rate of certain psychoses. These are usually based upon the personal observations of the author in question or upon statistical data available from his own hospital. It is only by accurate statistical studies that we can arrive at conclusions of any great value regarding the matters upon which our fundamental conception of psychiatry largely depends.

Heredity is usually looked upon as one of the most important etiological factors of mental disease. However, how far is it responsible for dementia praecox or manic depressive insanity as compared with the various forms of mental deficiency or epilepsy? Can we rely upon the Mendelian theories relating to heredity sufficiently to warrant a complete revision of our views on this subject?