

File 206

MONTREAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

COUNCIL PROGRAM 1941 - 1954

The year 1941 is chosen because the Council was reorganized that year and began to operate under new by-laws, with new staff, and a slightly larger budget.

This is not a comprehensive statement of all work done during the last 14 years but rather a listing of the major projects undertaken during that time.

COMPLETED WORK

1941

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Protestant Bureau for Homeless Men was closed after much negotiation because its work with young unemployed men was no longer necessary. The Bureau's program for sick men was transferred to the Family Welfare Association which opened a new department for this purpose.

The Sheltering Home's program was studied at the request of the agency itself, which resulted in better planning for its clients and eventually the removal of the Home from obsolete quarters to the present location.

The Central Volunteer Bureau was expanded to undertake war services. Today it is the Women's Voluntary Services.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Dependents' Allowance Board - arranged with the Department of Defence for the administration of these investigations through the four family agencies.

The Wartime Services Coordinating Council was re-constituted on a sound basis.

Directional Services for the Families of Enlisted Men was closed as the Dependents' Allowance Board was operating.

Co-ordination of War Services Appeals was arranged.

The Council for Overseas Children was evaluated and financed on a sound basis.

Department of Social Welfare of Montreal - drafted the necessary by-law and undertook much community action which resulted in the establishment of this Department.

The Inter-Federation Council was planned and established.

1942

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Canadian Conference on Social Work - responsible for planning this bi-lingual conference in Montreal.

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control - developed program. Initial implementation then begun eventually resulted in considerable success.

Unmarried Mothers - non-resident. Arranged services to meet this need.

Welfare Federation Campaign Shortage - Reviewing Committee established priorities for essential financing.

Work-Study Plans - arranged to recruit and train social workers for member agencies.

Urban Camping - emphasis on program and standards.

Group Work Agencies - emphasis on Standards, Statistics and Recording.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Wartime Day Nurseries - assumed major responsibility for their establishment.

Civilian Protection - completed plans related to welfare responsibilities.

Physically Handicapped - Committee work resulted in special service being established for this group in National Employment Service. Later put into force across Canada.

Quebec Public Charities Act and Needy Mothers' Assistance Act - Committee memorandum on recommended revision prepared for submission to Royal Commission.

Compulsory School Attendance - urged. Came into force with Family Allowances' legislation.

Wartime Recreation in Industrial Plants - planned with Federal Government aid.

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ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Technical Advisory Committee established to screen the several new leisure time projects being sponsored in the community for teen-agers. This committee was active so long as it was needed.

Survey of 12 Welfare Camps completed and later a good proportion of the recommendations were put into force.

Welfare Federation with Council cooperation completed the analysis and grading of approximately 650 positions and worked on job descriptions and personnel practices.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Low-Rental Housing - intensified efforts which had begun at least ten years previously, to secure low-rental housing.

Child Protection Act - intensive work undertaken including submission to Garneau Commission. Later Youth Protection Act and related Acts were passed and are operating.

1944

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Women's Directory of Montreal and Children's Service Centre - study and service resulting in eventual merger.

Negro Community Centre - survey made resulting in considerable development of program. At present engaged in building plans for improvement of facilities.

Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation Centre - survey completed and work begun on the whole subject of rehabilitation of the disabled.

Ladies Benevolent Society Institution studied and later closed, to be merged with Summerhill House.

Volunteer Training Course successfully undertaken.

Junior League Youth Centre opened after Council study. Today is St. Andrew's Youth Centre.

Employment of Children in Province of Quebec studied in committee - recommendations made.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Youth Conference sponsored.

Family Allowances - studied and advocated

Physical Fitness - cooperated in plans of Federal Government

St. Helen's Island Recreation Centre promoted. Now in operation.

Penal Reform - pressure intensified. Now vast improvement in Penitentiaries.

1945

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Volunteer Club Leaders Course initiated and developed in the next two years.

Institute on Community Planning with the late Dr. Lindemann as leader held in the Windsor Hotel.

Urban Camping - leaders course given. arranged - third year.

Functions and Responsibilities of Board and Executive Officers - pamphlet written and used widely.

Delinquency Studies - resulted in subsidization of non-Roman Catholic probation officers.

Children's Aid Society and Children's Service Centre - merger completed.

Installment Buying - studied and made recommendations for legal control with successful results.

Ambulance Service - studied and made recommendations regarding this gap in service. Eventually fairly satisfactory service was provided.

Relief Budgets - Recommended planned increases. Moderate success.

1946

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Second Community Planning Institute held. applied and given professional

Report on Problems of the Aged completed - the recommendations of which have been in process of implementation step by step ever since.

Girls' Counselling Centre building needs examined - result, removal to better quarters.

Dominion-Provincial Relations Brief developed

Welfare Services in the Province of Quebec - report completed.

Training Course for Recreation Workers arranged.

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Girls' Cottage School received intensive assistance both before and after the fire hazards etc. had brought a decision to close the School. Arrangements were made for an outside survey and further study to the point of preparing a brief for presentation to the Provincial Government. Eventual results - a new School built by the Government, major Government financing obtained, and a new program developed.

Group Work Sequence at the McGill School of Social Work - initiated and secured the financing for this.

Unmarried Mothers - intensive work done to acquaint physicians with social service standards and resources for this group.

Boys Clubs - formula developed for the operating, staffing, financing and planned development of such clubs.

Training Course for Recreation Workers arranged - third year.

Personnel Policies for Group Work Agencies - memorandum completed.

1948

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Commentator was published for the first time in 1948.

The Council's functions were studied and appraised.

Montreal Girls' Association - assisted in its establishment, and have continued this help.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Health Survey of Montreal School Children was completed. Implementation of recommendations was only possible in the Protestant schools, except in the matter of tuberculosis control which the City Health Department carried through in both School systems.

Montreal Council for New Immigrants was established and given professional service for a two-year period. Later the French group withdrew from this Council, but many positive results accrued and this continues to be so.

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ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Protestant Industrial Rooms - studied and closed as no longer needed.

Board and Committee Members Institute held.

Child Care Institute led by Dr. Schulze arranged.

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Education for Marriage and Family Living Study completed, later resulting in the establishment of a department of marriage counselling in the Mental Hygiene Institute with plans for an enlarged service in the future.

Travellers' Aid Survey completed.

Family Agencies Institute led by Dr. Gomberg held.

Red Feather Building completed and Council moved to new and far better quarters.

Teen Club Conference most successfully held. This was repeated in the following year.

City Summer Program work begun - development from previous interest in urban camping.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

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Control and Prevention of Tuberculosis in school children was undertaken particularly in municipalities adjacent to Montreal proper.

Report on Re-Establishment of Disabled Persons published on the needs of the disabled in Montreal following a long and difficult rehabilitation survey throughout the whole community. However this work did spearhead a nationwide interest which resulted eventually in the Dominion Rehabilitation Program within the Department of Labour, and in Montreal has led to the development of two Rehabilitation Centres, one related to McGill University and the other more closely related to the University of Montreal, together with numerous other improvements in treatment for various disabilities.

1951

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The Travellers' Aid Society of Montreal, after considerable negotiation based on the survey, ceased to operate as a department of the Young Women's Christian Association and was reorganized as an independent Red Feather Service with trained staff and enlarged budget.

The John Howard Society of Quebec after years' of effort was reorganized, (old name, Prisoners' Aid and Welfare Society) and re-established with a sound program and professional staff.

The Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation Centre was reorganized to provide a sound rehabilitation program on a much more extensive basis.

The Girls' Cottage School reopened for business.

A Guide to Health and Welfare Services in Quebec was published for the use of clergy and others who encountered problems in rural areas of the Province.

Alcoholism - study completed and report published. Public meetings held to inform the community on this subject.

Griffintown Club and Pt. St. Charles Boys' Club amalgamated and became unit of Montreal Boys' Association.

Group Work Institute led by Dr. Bernstein held.

Brehmer Rest Preventorium - Program studied.

"Where Are We Going?" - Brochure for children's summer programs published and widely circulated.

Survey of Welfare Positions - made local arrangements for this survey done by Department of National Health and Welfare.

Legal Aid Study - examined a proposal made by the Montreal Bar. Decided against a community-wide service for the time being as English group now satisfactorily served.

'Teen Club Conference again held (2 days).

Children's Aid Society merged with Protestant Foster Home Centre to form Children's Service Centre.

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An Institute on Emotionally Disturbed, Mentally Retarded and Delinquent Children was held in cooperation with the Mental Health Committee of the Montreal Rotary Club.

An Institute on Parent Education and Family Living was sponsored jointly with the Mental Hygiene Institute and the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations.

An Institute on Dramatics with special emphasis on good group work techniques was held successfully.

Old Age Can Be Fun - a brochure - was prepared and widely distributed.

St. Andrew's Youth Centre Survey was undertaken at the agency's request.

Brehmer Rest Preventorium Study was completed and financing transferred from private to public funds.

Salary Standards Report prepared by the Canadian Association of Social Workers was studied and application to Council agencies considered.

Constitution and By-laws of the Council were carefully reviewed and revised.

1953

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Interpretative Mental Health Play "My Name is Legion" shown to some 1100 people

Inter-agency Policies were worked out between the Children's Service Centre, Summerhill House, Weredale House and the Family Welfare Association to the benefit of all clients.

Geriatrics Institute sponsored.

Review of Welfare Federation Agencies almost completed during this period.

Second Institute on Delinquency - its prevention and treatment held.

Marriage and Family Living Institute held and assisted in setting up marriage counselling service at the Mental Hygiene Institute related to existing services.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Presentation to Royal Commission on Constitutional Problems a comprehensive Brief making 27 recommendations concerning urgent welfare needs.

Multiple Appeals Committee plan for action. Efforts to achieve consolidation now begun by the Montreal Board of Trade.

1954

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Institute on the Volunteer - An Essential to Welfare Service was held with some 600 attending. Further discussion proceeding in Group Work and Recreation Section.

Institute on Nutrition comprising an exciting two-day series of workshops and appealing to the whole community was held.

Coordination and Program Development of Old Age Clubs sponsored by Council members is being continued.

Agencies' Program Studies - Eight member organizations requested and received special study of their services and continuing assistance in resolving problems they could not handle alone.

Council Manual of Procedure and also a Manual of Social Service Index Procedure completed.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Athletic Competition for Children - Study of Desirable Standards for School-Agers in community centre programs and in commercial enterprises completed in 1954.

Dental Services for Children - recommendations of earlier report put into force by the Montreal Health Department through improved services, additional clinics, and planning for the fluoridation of water.

Institute on Human Problems in Industry jointly sponsored by the Mental Health Committee of the Rotary Club of Montreal and the Council, with the Health Section assuming considerable responsibility.

UNFINISHED WORK

1954

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Care of Educable Mentally Retarded Children - The Council has been attempting to obtain a resident institution for this group for over thirty years and has intensified its efforts since 1942. A Provisional Board for the institution has been appointed serving under the chairmanship of Mr. John Bancroft. However there have been numerous delays for various reasons and now it would appear that though financing may be obtained from the Protestant Central School Board for the educational aspects of the project, monies will have to be found for the erection of the institution and for the boarding school aspects of the operation. Matters are further ahead but much still remains to be done.

Protestant Women's Jail - The Council and several of its member agencies have been concerned with the shocking conditions in this Jail since the early thirties. Many improvements have been made as to quarters, food, extended facilities, etc. but it has been hard to interest the Provincial authorities and matters are still by no means satisfactory.

Convalescent Care for Children - A study of the needs of this group begun in 1950 was completed - but recommendations have not been implemented in spite of much effort. The Julius Richardson Convalescent Home was re-built in Montreal but has not yet provided the service anticipated. Attempts to get

increased payments under the Quebec Public Charities Act for special foster homes for convalescent children in need of home care has so far failed.

Recreation for Elderly People - This project begun in 1950 is going from strength to strength. Coordination of the work of clubs for old people and sharing of experience and programs has been most valuable. In addition, with the aid of the Montreal Rotary Club, a pilot project was established in University Settlement which is now a regular part of the on-going program. Further efforts are being made with other groups for the development of more clubs, a hobby show, and greater interest of the general community in the needs of older people.

Dental Services for Children - Planning was begun in 1952 and several positive results obtained although the work is not yet over. Emphasis has been placed on the care of the teeth of the pre-school child, and the Child Health Association has been able to emphasize this with assistance from the Provincial Government. The City of Montreal has trained and appointed a dentist with his diploma in Public Health and is extending and improving its dental services. Fluoridation of water is likely to be introduced locally before long.

Day Care of Children - work uncompleted. First a survey was done of the Montreal Day Nursery at its request, and many improvements made in budget, staff, program, etc. Then came further study of need for this type of care in other sections of the community, following the acceptance of a committee report by the Board of Governors. Emphasis has been placed on attempting to establish a training school for nursery school teachers within McGill University, as personnel is essential to further sound development. McGill has signified interest. The Council is now approaching a number of Foundations for money for a five year demonstration. Part of such a teaching program would include the use of the Montreal Day Nursery as its clinical facility.

Unattached Men - Resident and Transient - The recent report on the urgent needs of this neglected group has just recently been presented to the Board of Governors. Implementation of the recommendations is not going to be easy though the Council will persist in trying to follow them through. The public rejects this group classifying them (young and old, sick and in trouble) as "no goods" and "down and outers". Other cities have been able to meet their needs and there is no reason why Montreal eventually should not do so also.

Homemaker Services - Urgently needed where the mother is either sick in the home or temporarily absent. The committee report recently accepted by the Board of Governors is in the action phase though it is unlikely for various reasons that progress will be rapid in this bi-lingual community. As yet there are no funds available for this service, nor is it easy to find women who wish to accept this type of work and who are suitable.

Insufficient staff in the Council for the variety of problems to be solved with a special weakness in research and public relations limits progress.

Rehabilitation of the Disabled - continued delay in this work due to lack of staff.

South Area - negotiations with Group Work Agencies in this district under way.

Juvenile Court Committee - At the request of the Committee, and with the approval of the Children's Service Centre, the affiliation of the Committee has been transferred from that agency to the Montreal Council of Social Agencies. The Committee is actively trying to raise standards of the Social Welfare Court by

1) trying to secure an increase in salary for the single probation officer in the non-Catholic section of the Court; 2) trying to secure an increase in the salary scale for all potential probation officers; 3) urging that professional qualifications be a sine qua non in the hiring of probation officers. A brief is being submitted to the Inter-Departmental Committee. A delegation will call upon the Deputy Attorney-General. Another will approach the Mayor in an effort to apprise him of the conditions at the Court, as well as of those in the Detention Home. The interest of the Council of Women has been secured in developing a cooperative effort to carry out these aims.

Uneducable Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children - A survey is being made of commercial homes which accept retarded children. It has been found that children of all degrees of retardation, as well as healthy children are being kept in the same homes. An effort will be made to secure governmental regulation in regard to screening children before admission. The Committee has also been actively engaged in helping the Cecil Memorial Home become more stable and to become eligible for Quebec Public Charities Act grants. In this connection, the Board of Governors will be asked to help set up a Board of Directors for the Home.

Emotionally Disturbed Children - The Committee which functioned since February, 1952 has been discharged. A new all-technical Committee is being constituted to work on the following subjects: 1) the need for new services; 2) the use of existing services; 3) juvenile delinquency; 4) personnel and finance; 5) research.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Quebec Public Charities Act - Much work has been done in relation to this Act in the past. Now a new committee is proposing to go over the Act to make realistic suggestions for improvement which would include the addition of categories and recommendations as to the improvement of rates.

Penal Reform Coordinating Committee - This work met with a certain amount of success between 1945 and 1950. Since then the focus has been on improvement in Provincial Jails which is difficult of attainment unless the French community assumes leadership. At the moment the John Howard Society is examining the problem, with the Council in a consultant capacity.

Care of the Chronically Ill - Since 1948 consistent efforts have been made to attain facilities for this group which is in urgent need of care. The community is much more aware of the problem at the present time and the Council, with the assistance of the Hospital Council, hopes that its efforts will be crowned with some success within the foreseeable future.

Multiple Appeals - In 1950, the Council began a serious attempt to find ways and means of reducing the multiplicity of campaigns in this community. Some results are beginning to be evident. The Montreal Board of Trade has now taken the matter in hand, relying to a large extent on technical assistance from this office. Negotiations which may bear fruit have begun with a number of organizations.

Civil Defence - The place of health and welfare agencies in planning for civil defence began in 1950. Council personnel has cooperated with city and federal authorities at every point possible. There appear to have been considerable advances in the area of health. So far the organized welfare agencies have not been involved by the authorities in any way which would be considered satisfactory.

Delinquency - Another perennial problem. The Council has done at least one careful study and implemented the major recommendations which related to strengthening the probation service at the Juvenile Court. It has held institutes in recent years to develop a better understanding of the causation of delinquency, and provide staff better trained to give a service to children who are either potential delinquents, or classified delinquents. There remains a great deal to be done and a new committee is again attacking certain phases of the problem.

Alcoholism - A committee, working since 1950, has done a good deal to alert the community to (1) the need for understanding the health aspects of the problem; and (2) providing for the treatment of the alcoholic. A citizens committee is now in action in order to carry out the subject further, though practical services have yet to be developed.

Athletic Standards for Children - work begun in 1952 - report completed. Wide circulation in the English and French community. Recommendations have been analyzed for short-term objectives and long-term objectives and implementation is in process.

Commercial Nursing Homes - A study of the standards of thirty-two such homes was begun and completed in 1954. Again the recommendations have been analyzed and those which may be achieved in a short period of time are being tackled, while the others which involve government action will be pursued at a somewhat slower pace.

Housing - low-rental - The Council has been concerned with this subject since the early thirties when it was a voice crying in the wilderness. One committee after another worked on this subject, each achieving certain limited goals. Some of the reports produced were translated into French and distributed widely through the Conseil des Oeuvres. There has been persistent work, wide publicity and many representations to government, with briefs and recommendations. Two years ago it seemed that at last a climate had been established in Montreal which would permit of action. Mrs. R.G. Gilbride, then President of the Montreal Council of Women, was able to draw together fifty-five organizations representative of the whole community, and including this Council. This action resulted in the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Slum Clearance and Low-Rental Housing under the chairmanship of Mr. Paul Dozois, and the bringing down of the comprehensive report entitled "Proposed Redevelopment of a Blighted Residential Area and Construction of Low-Rental Housing". This now has had the approval of the City of Montreal, the attention and practically the approval of the Quebec Government, and the eager interest of the Federal Government. The hope is that a low-rental housing project will be erected in Montreal before too long.

Lachine Benevolent Society - Study made of needs for Family Welfare and Child Care service in Lachine. Negotiations under way.

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1954

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Institute on the Volunteer - An Essential to Welfare Service was held with some 600 attending. Further discussion proceeding in Group Work and Recreation Section.

Institute on Nutrition comprising an exciting two-day series of workshops and appealing to the whole community was held.

Coordination and Program Development of Old Age Clubs sponsored by Council members is being continued.

Agencies' Program Studies - Eight member organizations requested and received special study of their services and continuing assistance in resolving problems they could not handle alone.

Council Manual of Procedure and also a Manual of Social Service Index Procedure completed.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Athletic Competition for Children - Study of Desirable Standards for School-Agers in community centre programs and in commercial enterprises completed in 1954.

Dental Services for Children - recommendations of earlier report put into force by the Montreal Health Department through improved services, additional clinics, and planning for the fluoridation of water.

Institute on Human Problems in Industry jointly sponsored by the Mental Health Committee of the Rotary Club of Montreal and the Council, with the Health Section assuming considerable responsibility.

UNFINISHED WORK

1954

ENGLISH COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Care of Educable Mentally Retarded Children - The Council has been attempting to obtain a resident institution for this group for over thirty years and has intensified its efforts since 1942. A Provisional Board for the institution has been appointed serving under the chairmanship of Mr. John Bancroft. However there have been numerous delays for various reasons and now it would appear that though financing may be obtained from the Protestant Central School Board for the educational aspects of the project, monies will have to be found for the erection of the institution and for the boarding school aspects of the operation. Matters are further ahead but much still remains to be done.

Protestant Women's Jail - The Council and several of its member agencies have been concerned with the shocking conditions in this Jail since the early thirties. Many improvements have been made as to quarters, food, extended facilities, etc. but it has been hard to interest the Provincial authorities and matters are still by no means satisfactory.

Convalescent Care for Children - A study of the needs of this group begun in 1950 was completed - but recommendations have not been implemented in spite of much effort. The Julius Richardson Convalescent Home was re-built in Montreal but has not yet provided the service anticipated. Attempts to get

increased payments under the Quebec Public Charities Act for special foster homes for convalescent children in need of home care has so far failed.

Recreation for Elderly People - This project begun in 1950 is going from strength to strength. Coordination of the work of clubs for old people and sharing of experience and programs has been most valuable. In addition, with the aid of the Montreal Rotary Club, a pilot project was established in University Settlement which is now a regular part of the on-going program. Further efforts are being made with other groups for the development of more clubs, a hobby show, and greater interest of the general community in the needs of older people.

Dental Services for Children - Planning was begun in 1952 and several positive results obtained although the work is not yet over. Emphasis has been placed on the care of the teeth of the pre-school child, and the Child Health Association has been able to emphasize this with assistance from the Provincial Government. The City of Montreal has trained and appointed a dentist with his diploma in Public Health and is extending and improving its dental services. Fluoridation of water is likely to be introduced locally before long.

Day Care of Children - work uncompleted. First a survey was done of the Montreal Day Nursery at its request, and many improvements made in budget, staff, program, etc. Then came further study of need for this type of care in other sections of the community, following the acceptance of a committee report by the Board of Governors. Emphasis has been placed on attempting to establish a training school for nursery school teachers within McGill University, as personnel is essential to further sound development. McGill has signified interest. The Council is now approaching a number of Foundations for money for a five year demonstration. Part of such a teaching program would include the use of the Montreal Day Nursery as its clinical facility.

Unattached Men - Resident and Transient - The recent report on the urgent needs of this neglected group has just recently been presented to the Board of Governors. Implementation of the recommendations is not going to be easy though the Council will persist in trying to follow them through. The public rejects this group classifying them (young and old, sick and in trouble) as "no goods" and "down and outers". Other cities have been able to meet their needs and there is no reason why Montreal eventually should not do so also.

Homemaker Services - Urgently needed where the mother is either sick in the home or temporarily absent. The committee report recently accepted by the Board of Governors is in the action phase though it is unlikely for various reasons that progress will be rapid in this bi-lingual community. As yet there are no funds available for this service, nor is it easy to find women who wish to accept this type of work and who are suitable.

Insufficient staff in the Council for the variety of problems to be solved with a special weakness in research and public relations limits progress.

Rehabilitation of the Disabled - continued delay in this work due to lack of staff.

South Area - negotiations with Group Work Agencies in this district under way.

Juvenile Court Committee - At the request of the Committee, and with the approval of the Children's Service Centre, the affiliation of the Committee has been transferred from that agency to the Montreal Council of Social Agencies. The Committee is actively trying to raise standards of the Social Welfare Court by

1) trying to secure an increase in salary for the single probation officer in the non-Catholic section of the Court; 2) trying to secure an increase in the salary scale for all potential probation officers; 3) urging that professional qualifications be a sine qua non in the hiring of probation officers. A brief is being submitted to the Inter-Departmental Committee. A delegation will call upon the Deputy Attorney-General. Another will approach the Mayor in an effort to apprise him of the conditions at the Court, as well as of those in the Detention Home. The interest of the Council of Women has been secured in developing a cooperative effort to carry out these aims.

Uneducable Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children - A survey is being made of commercial homes which accept retarded children. It has been found that children of all degrees of retardation, as well as healthy children are being kept in the same homes. An effort will be made to secure governmental regulation in regard to screening children before admission. The Committee has also been actively engaged in helping the Cecil Memorial Home become more stable and to become eligible for Quebec Public Charities Act grants. In this connection, the Board of Governors will be asked to help set up a Board of Directors for the Home.

Emotionally Disturbed Children - The Committee which functioned since February, 1952 has been discharged. A new all-technical Committee is being constituted to work on the following subjects: 1) the need for new services; 2) the use of existing services; 3) juvenile delinquency; 4) personnel and finance; 5) research.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Quebec Public Charities Act - Much work has been done in relation to this Act in the past. Now a new committee is proposing to go over the Act to make realistic suggestions for improvement which would include the addition of categories and recommendations as to the improvement of rates.

Penal Reform Coordinating Committee - This work met with a certain amount of success between 1945 and 1950. Since then the focus has been on improvement in Provincial Jails which is difficult of attainment unless the French community assumes leadership. At the moment the John Howard Society is examining the problem, with the Council in a consultant capacity.

Care of the Chronically Ill - Since 1948 consistent efforts have been made to attain facilities for this group which is in urgent need of care. The community is much more aware of the problem at the present time and the Council, with the assistance of the Hospital Council, hopes that its efforts will be crowned with some success within the foreseeable future.

Multiple Appeals - In 1950, the Council began a serious attempt to find ways and means of reducing the multiplicity of campaigns in this community. Some results are beginning to be evident. The Montreal Board of Trade has now taken the matter in hand, relying to a large extent on technical assistance from this office. Negotiations which may bear fruit have begun with a number of organizations.

Civil Defence - The place of health and welfare agencies in planning for civil defence began in 1950. Council personnel has cooperated with city and federal authorities at every point possible. There appear to have been considerable advances in the area of health. So far the organized welfare agencies have not been involved by the authorities in any way which would be considered satisfactory.

Delinquency - Another perennial problem. The Council has done at least one careful study and implemented the major recommendations which related to strengthening the probation service at the Juvenile Court. It has held institutes in recent years to develop a better understanding of the causation of delinquency, and provide staff better trained to give a service to children who are either potential delinquents, or classified delinquents. There remains a great deal to be done and a new committee is again attacking certain phases of the problem.

Alcoholism - A committee, working since 1950, has done a good deal to alert the community to (1) the need for understanding the health aspects of the problem; and (2) providing for the treatment of the alcoholic. A citizens committee is now in action in order to carry out the subject further, though practical services have yet to be developed.

Athletic Standards for Children - work begun in 1952 - report completed. Wide circulation in the English and French community. Recommendations have been analyzed for short-term objectives and long-term objectives and implementation is in process.

Commercial Nursing Homes - A study of the standards of thirty-two such homes was begun and completed in 1954. Again the recommendations have been analyzed and those which may be achieved in a short period of time are being tackled, while the others which involve government action will be pursued at a somewhat slower pace.

Housing - low-rental - The Council has been concerned with this subject since the early thirties when it was a voice crying in the wilderness. One committee after another worked on this subject, each achieving certain limited goals. Some of the reports produced were translated into French and distributed widely through the Conseil des Oeuvres. There has been persistent work, wide publicity and many representations to government, with briefs and recommendations. Two years ago it seemed that at last a climate had been established in Montreal which would permit of action. Mrs. R.G. Gilbride, then President of the Montreal Council of Women, was able to draw together fifty-five organizations representative of the whole community, and including this Council. This action resulted in the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Slum Clearance and Low-Rental Housing under the chairmanship of Mr. Paul Dozois, and the bringing down of the comprehensive report entitled "Proposed Redevelopment of a Blighted Residential Area and Construction of Low-Rental Housing". This now has had the approval of the City of Montreal, the attention and practically the approval of the Quebec Government, and the eager interest of the Federal Government. The hope is that a low-rental housing project will be erected in Montreal before too long.

Lachine Benevolent Society - Study made of needs for Family Welfare and Child Care service in Lachine. Negotiations under way.