

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF

THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Name

1. The name of the Association is The National War Memorial Health Foundation, (hereinafter termed "THE MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION"). *which is formed to commemorate those men & women who gave their lives in the war*

Origin and Function

2. The origin and function of "THE MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION" have been publicly expressed in the following statement :-

"It is the express desire of the fighting forces themselves that the memorial commemorative of the part played by South Africa in the second world war shall assist in the realisation of fundamental human rights for all races.

"Not the least among these, and the one which in particular has made its appeal to the soldiers of the Union, is the right to health and all that the modern conception of this term connotes.

"It has therefore been decided, with the approval of the Government, that the national war memorial shall be of a living character and shall make a permanent and substantial contribution to the improvement of the health of the needy among all sections of the community, with special regard to the non-European.

"The realisation in human life of the modern concept of 'health' implies the provision not only of curative and preventive services, for which the Government (including the Provinces) is already responsible, but also of health promotive services.

"The scope of the latter is very wide, embracing such matters as nutrition, health education, research into the requisites for individual and community health, and the training of personnel for the practice of social medicine.

"It is therefore in the sphere of promotive health services that the National War Memorial can most usefully supplement the services to be provided by the State."

General Purpose

3. The purpose of "THE MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION" is to promote good health of all sections of the population of the Union of South Africa, with special regard to the non-European, and the particular field in which it shall make its contribution is that of "Promotive Health Services".

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG.  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

MEMORANDUM ON THE NEED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN  
INSTITUTE OF HYGIENE AND SOCIAL MEDICINE.

The Need.

This University has had a medical school as one of its components since 1919, i.e. for 26 years, and throughout this period it has never had proper facilities for teaching and research in hygiene and in tropical medicine and hygiene. Indeed, it may well be maintained that such facilities have been practically non-existent.

This has seriously hampered the teaching of undergraduate students of medicine but has had a still more restrictive effect upon the teaching of post-graduates, particularly in tropical medicine and hygiene.

The University is now faced with the urgent necessity not only of having the proper facilities for certain activities which have been in existence for years but of equipping itself to meet new developments in the fields of State and Social Medicine.

Diploma in Public Health.

At the request of the South African Medical Council, the University's post-graduate Diploma in Public Health will be based, as from the year 1946, on a period of full-time study. This will make it possible to carry out much more systematic and organized work with the candidates, particularly in the way of laboratory and practical studies. Such development, which is eminently desirable and long overdue, is seriously hampered by the lack of a museum of hygiene and medicine in relation to African conditions and by the lack of the necessary accommodation for staff, teaching and laboratories.

Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

The University also grants a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. It has done this, and is still forced to do so, without proper accommodation for the necessary staff, with no special museum and with no teaching and laboratory accommodation worthy of the name. It also urgently needs to extend its clinical facilities for the treatment and study of tropical diseases.

No one will deny the importance of these two diplomas from the point of view of the proper equipping of the medical profession in Southern and Central Africa for dealing with the problems of preventive and tropical medicine.

National Health Service.

Changing views in medicine and in its objectives, a change of outlook which has been quickened by the recent war, have brought into being another necessity. This is the establishment of National Health facilities throughout the country. No one will deny the significance of this development and its ultimate effect on the content of the course of training for the medical practitioner of the future. No one will deny also that it presents the medical schools of the Union with new responsibilities which they must accept. This University is facing this new responsibility and intends to establish the necessary facilities for the teaching and study of Social Medicine.

Social Medicine.

The importance of this new field of Social Medicine was stressed by the Minister of Welfare and Demobilization at his inaugural address to the Congress on "Nutrition and Disease" on Friday, 3rd August, 1945. In fact,

he recommended that the University Medical Schools establish Chairs in Social Medicine.

This University, in order to keep abreast of the times and of the country requirements, must establish a Department of Social Medicine with all expedition. This is necessary not only for the proper training of the medical practitioner but for the training of the new types of ancillary workers in medicine which will be created by the rise of State and Social Medicine.

### Research.

There are other aspects of this matter, every bit as important as the preceding. Africa, particularly Southern Africa, has many problems to investigate, and to solve, in regard to the health and welfare of its peoples, indigenous and imported.

There is need for knowledge of the effect of continued residence in Southern Africa on the European and for knowledge of the effect of contact with European civilization and its seemingly inevitable urbanization upon our indigenous population.

Changing ideas in regard to the production and distribution of food need constant investigation particularly in regard to their possible effect upon the welfare and health of our population. Even the prevalent urge to industrialize with its inevitable drift from the country to the town needs exploration from the point of view of preventing the social medical evils which are so apparent in older countries.

Improvements in air-travel facilities are breaking down not only national barriers but even continental ones and bringing in their train new problems in relation to the public health and welfare. Likewise the widening of motor transport is bringing with it problems in regard to the health of the community which should be investigated, especially in connection with the spread of contagious and infectious diseases.

The problems of the incidence, spread, and control of disease and more particularly of the serious tropical and other formidable diseases are a matter of great moment to this country. Many of these diseases occur in the Union and others in adjoining territories.

These are some only of the problems awaiting urgent attention. Many of them are continuous problems. This University feels that there is room for the establishment and maintenance of a suitable Institute of Hygiene and Social Medicine in which not only the many problems of social, state and tropical medicine may be elucidated to the benefit of the community but the necessary instructional facilities for the proper training of medical practitioners, dentists, nurses, health visitors and other ancillary workers in these fields of medicine may be made available.

The close relationship between hygiene, tropical medicine and hygiene, state medicine, industrial medicine and social medicine, is apparent to any thinking person. They are different facets of one problem and require to be dealt with by one organization so as to ensure proper integration. This integration is particularly important in the education and training of the medical practitioner and in dealing with the medical research problems of the country.

### The Objective.

At the present moment there is no single unified institute, directed by a suitable board and director, in which the various aspects of Hygiene including Tropical Hygiene, in relation to African conditions can be developed. Nor is there yet any centre for the development of studies in Social Medicine or for under-graduate and post-graduate instruction and training of medical practitioners and others in this new subject.

The object is the erection and maintenance of such an Institute of Hygiene and State Medicine to house the necessary specialized laboratories and other teaching accommodation. The subjects to be so accommodated are not at the moment available in existing institutions such as the University, the South African Institute for Medical Research and the Veterinary Research Laboratories at Onderstepoort.

A properly organized museum of hygiene, tropical medicine and hygiene and social medicine is a vital necessity not only in the training of all classes of medical and ancillary personnel for service in the Union Public Health Department and with Local Authorities but also in the training of suitable personnel for the State's new National Health Service.

Still more important, however, is the idea of developing, through the aegis of such an Institute, of a centre to which the problems of state medicine in a wide sense could be referred. The problems of the incidence spread and control of disease and more particularly of the serious tropical and other formidable diseases which are found on the continent of Africa. Problems of nutrition, housing, industry in relation to health, the organization of state health services, propaganda and many others await attention.

It is felt that the primary organization should be a central institute suitably housed. If necessary and in time, subsidiary or branch institutes could be organized for special purposes and linked with the mother institute.

Such an institute could suitably be governed by a Board upon which there would be nominees of such departments and institutions as the Union Department of Public Health, the Union Department of Native Affairs, the Union Department of Welfare and Demobilization, the Chamber of Mines, the Johannesburg City Council, the Witwatersrand Council of Education, The South African Red Cross Society and the University. In addition it is felt that substantial support will be forthcoming from the administrations of neighbouring territories such as Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya, Nyasaland, Tanganyika, Portuguese East Africa and Portuguese West Africa. It might, therefore, prove necessary to allow for representation of some of these on the Board.

The Board of Management is envisaged as being responsible for the general supervision and management of the Institute and for ensuring its finances. Its chief executive officer would be the Director who would have sub-directors in charge of suitable sub-sections of the Institute. Professorial and other academic status, suitable to the standing of the various individuals on the staff, could be accorded by the University and so place its seal on the educational and academic standing of the Institute and its staff.

A suitable and sufficient secretarial and office staff for the Institute is a sine qua non. Much of its work, including the educational side, will involve a great deal of organization. Such a staff is therefore vital to its success and to its continued utility to the country.

#### Site of the Institute.

There need be no hesitation in siting such an Institute in Johannesburg. Indeed there are strong reasons why this City is a very natural and suitable situation for it. The more important of these factors are:-

- (a) proximity to an established medical school.
- (b) proximity to the University with its School of African studies and its School of Social studies.

- (c) proximity to the South African Institute for Medical Research.
- (d) proximity to densely populated native areas which, together with the large reservoir of native labour on the Witwatersrand, provides ample patient material.
- (e) the availability of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association Hospital which might be utilized during the transition period for clinical teaching and investigation until such time as wider clinical facilities are organized.
- (f) the presence of many natives from tropical areas on the Witwatersrand Gold Mines.
- (g) proximity to Onderstepoort.
- (h) proximity to the Rietfontein Hospital.
- (i) proximity to the Transvaal Provincial Chronic Sick Home.
- (j) proximity to the Meerhof Chronic Sock Home for European Children.
- (k) leprosy material is available in ample quantity near Johannesburg.
- (l) the Malarial Station at Tzaneen is easily accessible.
- (m) climatically Johannesburg is ideally situated for such an Institute, in view of the fact that the vectors of tropical diseases are not present on the Witwatersrand.
- (n) Johannesburg will be the focal point in the anticipated development of air travel. Previously institutes of a similar nature tended towards seaports because of the availability, albeit meagre, of clinical material from ships. Already many patients suffering from tropical and allied conditions are to be found on the Witwatersrand and it is estimated that this availability of clinical material in tropical diseases in Johannesburg will be much increased as a result of the development of air travel.
- (o) the availability of the Fordsburg Social Centre, which was established and is maintained by the students of the University of the Witwatersrand.
- (p) the availability of the Alexandra Health Centre and University Clinic in the establishment and maintenance of which the University played and plays a considerable part.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that Johannesburg offers many advantages as the home of such an institute.

#### Finance.

An accurate estimate of the possible capital cost and of the maintenance charges is impossible at this stage. It may well require a quarter of a million pounds to establish such an institute on a sufficiently wide and sound basis and to start it with proper accommodation and equipment. A great deal can be done with less but if the institute is to do and to continue to do what it should for the public health and welfare of Southern Africa, the larger sum is likely to be necessary.

The maintenance costs are equally difficult to estimate at this stage. In order to meet the salary and other current expenditure it is estimated that a sum of twenty to fifty thousand pounds a year will be necessary.

#### Support.

The University must look to the Government Departments concerned and to

the Governments of neighbouring Territories for the bulk of the money required for the establishment of such an Institute and for a goodly part of the annual maintenance charges. In addition, the financial support of the Chamber of Mines, of the Johannesburg City Council, of the Witwatersrand Council of Education and of the University are logical and would go far to complete the money required for the project.

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16th October, 1945.

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THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

*noted  
Sat.*

The first meeting of the Council of The National War Memorial Health Foundation will be held in the Supper Room, City Hall, Pretoria, on Monday the 29th day of April, 1948, commencing at 10.30 a.m., and continuing to 4.30 p.m. Members of the Provisional Committee appointed by the National Conference have also been invited to attend.

*H. Dupel*  
ACTING SECRETARY.

A G E N D A.

1. Opening of Council Meeting.
2. Report on Activities subsequent to National Conference.
3. Memorandum and Articles of Association: (Copy Annexed)
4. Appointments:

Foundation

- (a) Election of Executive Committee. (1) *under sec 23*
- (b) Co-opting of Members to Council. *any member elected to be not already in sec.*
- (c) Board of Trustees. *Bole  
Medina*

Appeal Organisation

- (a) National President. *Schoot*
- (b) National Chairman. *McLean*
- (c) National Organiser. *Sm Wakefield*

5. Consideration of other organisations to be invited to membership of The Foundation. (1)
6. Submission of Memorandum on Publicity. (1)  
Discussion and Establishment of Publicity Committee. *for appeal*
7. Submission of Memorandum of Proposals in regard to Policy of The Foundation. (1)  
Discussion and Establishment of Technical Advisory Committee.
8. General.

Note: (1) The following documents will be available at the Council Meeting :-

- (a) List of member organisations and of members of the Council.
- (b) List of additional organisations who may be invited to membership.
- (c) Précis of Memorandum on Publicity.
- (d) Précis of Memorandum on Policy.

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