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Letter N° 27

Doctor F. F. Russell
The Rockefeller Foundation
61 Broadway
New York City.

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May 3, 1923.

My dear Doctor Russell:

As you will recall, we turned over to the French on the 1st January the greater part of our activities. Much scepticism existed amongst the French personnel whom we transferred as to their ability to persuade the "Old Guard" of the Comité National to assimilate new ideas. I am very much pleased to report that the Comité has adopted the new ideas and is particularly pushing the Division of Propaganda or Public Health Education. This Division has started on a financial campaign which has already brought them, in the form of subscriptions from banks, over Frs 130,000. The "Old Guard" at first fought to have all this money turned in to the Comité, to be used as subsidies for dispensaries, etc.. However, finally, the Division of Propaganda was able to convince the Comité of the necessity of spending at least a considerable percentage of the money collected by the Division for the purposes of public health

Doctor F. F. Russell

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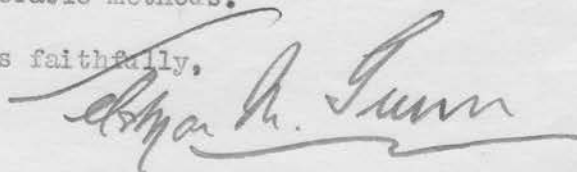
education. The Comité said "all right, you can have 5%," but later on they agreed to 33%.

The Division of Propaganda has also been able to get a fair number of Departments to vote special sums of money for the carrying on of public health education in the Departments, with the cooperation of the Comité National.

I enclose herewith a copy of the first popular bulletin published by the Comité. It seems to me to be quite good. Here again the "Old Guard" was very antagonistic and felt that the Comité should not issue anything less dignified than their old bulletin, which was so dignified that it was probably never read. The circulation of this little sheet is increasing rapidly.

All this is to indicate that the Comité National is really developing, and, bar the unexpected, should become more and more important in the course of time. They still have to contend with considerable opposition in the Departments, an opposition which was brought about by their own autocratic methods.

Yours faithfully,



Selskar M. Gunn
Director.

SMG-TH
Encl

Copy sent L.R. Williams

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