

The Rockefeller Foundation

"To promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world"

61 Broadway, New York

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., President

JEROME D. GREENE, Secretary

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THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION has decided to undertake a comprehensive plan for the improvement of medical and hospital conditions in China.

This action is based upon an exhaustive report by a special commission which made last year a careful first-hand study of the public health and of medical practice in China. The Commission was composed of

HARRY PRATT JUDSON,	President of the University of Chicago.
DR FRANCIS W PEABODY	of the Medical School of Harvard University
ROGER S GREENE	then Consul-General of the United States at Hankow

The Commission reported that the need of medical relief in China was very great. Not only have many preventable and easily curable diseases prevailed there almost unchecked, from the earliest days down to present times, but intercourse with foreign countries, and modern methods of communication have introduced into regions previously unaffected, such terrible scourges as the bubonic plague and have contributed largely to the spread of other dangerous infections.

With a view to building up a body of Chinese medical men who will in time be able to take the lead in teaching the medical sciences in their own country, the Foundation has decided to establish six fellowships, each of \$1,000 gold a year, with allowances for necessary traveling expenses, to enable Chinese graduates in medicine to prosecute further studies abroad. Six Fellows have been appointed, one of whom has already arrived in this country.

"No one can visit hospitals in China," the Commission reported, "without coming away profoundly impressed with the need for more foreign nurses. At present there are some 140 foreign nurses in the country and these are distributed in about 100 hospitals. Thus less than one hospital in two has a graduate nurse at all and few have more than one."

It is therefore proposed to enable the missionary societies to send out a large number of well trained nurses.

An appropriation has also been made for five nursing scholarships to enable Chinese nurses to come to the United States and secure a first class training at some of the leading schools in this country

A small appropriation has been made for the translation of nursing textbooks, and aid may be given to some nurses' training schools.

China suffers very greatly from tuberculosis and has at present no institution specially equipped for the treatment of this disease. The Commission, therefore, recommended that the Foundation assist in the establishment of two model tuberculosis hospitals built and equipped according to the best modern practice.

Besides the work of the medical missionaries, much has been done for the development of Western medicine by the Chinese Government and other agencies, but the country is so vast, and the resources available for dealing with the problem are so limited as yet, that the need of outside assistance is still very great.

The plan outlined by the Commission looks forward to the development of medical education in China as the first step towards effective work. Before hospitals can be established in larger numbers, and before extensive work in public health and preventive medicine can be done, a large body of well-trained doctors qualified to man hospitals and to administer public health measures, must be secured.

"It is evident," the Commission reported, "that there is no medical school now in China which is adequately equipped and no school which is adequately manned." It is probable, therefore, that two or more medical schools already existing in China will be aided by the Foundation to put themselves on a satisfactory basis so that they can train graduates equal to those of institutions in Western countries.

With a view to giving Chinese graduates in medicine opportunity to obtain their hospital training under proper supervision and to practice under favorable conditions, the Foundation intends to strengthen the staffs of the Mission hospitals and other hospitals already existing in the vicinity of the medical schools aided.

In hospitals thus more fully manned, young Chinese doctors will be employed as house officers or as visiting physicians, their compensation, when judged necessary, being paid by the Foundation. It is hoped that an intimate relation may be established between these hospitals and the medical schools near which they are located.

The Commission reported that it was greatly impressed by the work which has already been done by missionary societies in hospitals and medical schools. "The standard among the medical missionaries in China, both of medical and of general efficiency, is high," according to the Commission, "and not a few would have made their mark professionally anywhere in the world." At the same time the teaching and practice of scientific medicine requires such costly equipment that the missionary societies find difficulty in meeting the demands of the medical work which is, after all, but one branch of their activities.

So also have modern systems of transportation and of industry brought in an entirely new series of accidents and occupational diseases with which Chinese civilization is not yet prepared to cope. A special obligation therefore rests upon western civilization, to mitigate this suffering, for part of which it may be held directly responsible.

The China Medical Commission made numerous recommendations designed to meet the situation systematically, one of the primary ideas underlying the whole plan being to enlist the actual cooperation of both the missionary agencies and the Chinese people.

The report of the Commission has in its general outlines been adopted by the Foundation as a basis for its work in China. Details, however, will be studied separately and each project will be taken up for definite decision.

To carry out this work, The Rockefeller Foundation has established a special organization to be called THE CHINA MEDICAL BOARD OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION. The Board has been constituted as follows:

Mr John D Rockefeller, Jr., Chairman	
Mr Wallace Buttrick, Director	
President Harry Pratt Judson	
President Frank J Goodnow	
Dr Simon Flexner	Mr Wickliffe Rose
Mr Jerome D Greene	Mr Starr J Murphy
Mr John R Mott	Dr Francis W Peabody
Dr William H Welch	Mr Frederick T Gates

Mr E C Sage is the Secretary of the Board,
and Mr Roger S Greene is to be the Resident
Director in China.

The Director of the Board will have general administrative supervision over all its activities and particularly over the home office in New York. The Resident Director in China will make his headquarters in Peking.