

RESEARCH ON CANCER UNDERTAKEN

Creation of an Ontario Cancer Control Foundation for diagnosis, treatment and research in cancer, which last year was responsible for 12.8 per cent of all deaths in the Province, was announced in the Legislature yesterday by Health Minister Dr. R. P. Vivian. His statement came before the orders of the day.

An appropriation of \$500,000 will be earmarked for the use of the foundation, which will be headed by Lt.-Col. A. L. Bishop of Toronto as chairman. Other members of the foundation named by Dr. Vivian are Arthur Ford, London; Dr. George S. Young, Toronto; Malcolm Cochran, Port Arthur; Robert Brown, Toronto; Dr. R. E. Stratford, Sarnia, and Kenneth Emerson Deacon, Unionville. Others will be added.

Last year the Conant Government passed an act which provided for the setting up of such a foundation. It was sponsored by the then Health Minister, Harold Kirby. The act, however, was not implemented by the Government of the day, due to several factors. It is this act which the Drew Government is now carrying into operation.

Lands and Buildings.

The cancer foundation is empowered to acquire lands and buildings for its purposes and purchase machinery and equipment when necessary. It is also given authority to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, rights in any patent relating to any remedy for the prevention of cure of cancer. The foundation may also employ a director and officers, together with the necessary clerical staff.

The bill passed last year provides for an advisory medical board consisting of experts in radio-therapy, surgery and pathology, as well as internists, physicists and the medical profession generally. Travelling and other expenses will be paid the foundation and board members.

"This foundation will be able, I am sure, to do much toward the control of cancer in this Province," Dr. Vivian told the Legislature. "It is hoped that an improved public health program on the municipal level will also materially strengthen the efforts of the Cancer Foundation and a general program of education which will assist in the early diagnosis and treatment that are so important in the control of this disease."

EVICTION CASES CONCERN DREW

Though housing is a Federal matter, Premier George Drew told the Legislature yesterday that Ontario is prepared to "do what we can" in face of the mounting number of evictions.

The matter came up when Miss Agnes Macphail (C.C.F., York East) said that the rental branch of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board had reported 700 families ordered to vacate in Toronto up to March 31, and added that 16,000 would be asked to vacate by May 1. Though it was a Federal responsibility, it would create an Ontario problem, she pointed out, and asked what was to be done.

The necessary powers come under the War Measures Act, the Premier replied. "But that doesn't mean we are not prepared to do what we can," he added, explaining that he had been in touch with Ottawa and hoped to be able to make a report on the situation today.

Grants Continued.

Dr. Vivian stressed that the foundation is being set up in addition to the existing commission for the investigation of cancer remedies. Provision also has been made in the Budget for continuing assistance by way of grants to existing institutes of radio-therapy and clinics now in operation.

In Ontario 4,987 persons died of cancer in the past year, Dr. Vivian said. This was 12.8 per cent of all deaths in the Province. Need for further study of the disease beyond what was now being done, and expansion of such facilities was evident, he declared. This was the reason for the appointment of the foundation. Provision for some such body as was now being appointed seemed intended by the act placed on the statute books last year, Dr. Vivian pointed out.