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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

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FROM: C. A. Moberts, M.D. FILE(S)

DATED: OUR FILE:

DATE: Sept. 28, 1956

JECT:

Services for the Care of Mentally Defective Persons in Canada

We are presently revising the above-mentioned report and would very much appreciate having someone in your Directorate review the portion referring to mentally defective Indians and Eskimos for whom the Federal Government is responsible. The excerpt from the present report is attached hereto and we would, if possible, like to have any revisions in the next two weeks.

Principal Medical Officer
Mental Health

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Since health services are primarily a responsibility of the Provincial Governments, the Federal Government's responsibility for services for mentally defective persons applies only in special cases. In the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Directorate of Indian Health Services has been looking after the medical care of Indians on reservations. When mental defectives occur in this group, they are usually admitted to a provincial institution for care and training, and the Department of National Health and Welfare been paying for their care on a negotiated per diem basis.