

MEDICAL SERVICE AND PREVENTIVE CARE IN SOCIAL SECURITY

(Vol. 7, No. 1)

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The need to adopt a system concerning medical benefit for prevention of diseases has been stressed for many years and has become an aim of the I.L.O. Treaty. However, this medical benefit for prevention of diseases has never been adopted as a legal medical benefit of the medical care insurance although the need to revise the medical care insurance was recently discussed earnestly. Giving its advices from 1952 through 1962, the Social Security System Deliberative Council pointed out the necessity of medical benefit for prevention of diseases, including prevention of tuberculosis and and physical check-up. Since 1965, however, the Deliberative Council has stopped discussing this problem. Under these circumstances, since the Liberal-Democratic Party announced the "Outline of National Medical Care Countermeasures," and since the Welfare Ministry issued the "Draft Policy on Revision of Medical Insurance," the Federation of Health Insurance Associations, the Federation of Employers' Associations, the General Council of Trade Unions, the Confederation of Labor, the National Federation of Welfare Associations, the Japan Medical Workers Union, the Liberal-Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, the Komei Party, the Democratic Socialist Party, the Social Insurance Deliberative Council, and other Japanese organizations have criticized the Japanese system concerning medical benefit and expressed their own views. All of these organizations have unanimously emphasized the need to establish a complete health insurance system, including prevention of diseases, medical treatment, rehabilitation, and after care.

When it comes to the actual methods to realize such a complete system, however, all organizations, except for the Federation of Welfare Associations and the Socialist Party, merely called for expansion of structure of health centers and for cooperation between public and private medical organizations.

Also, most of these organizations merely asserted that prevention of diseases, including physical check-up, should be carried out with public expenses. Public health, which is closely related to prevention of diseases, must be improved mainly by health centers. However, the health centers have many problems which must be solved, and the present social security system for medical care is hampering the settlement of the problems which the health centers face. I would like to state the grounds of the need to complete the health insurance system, including medical benefit for prevention of diseases, and explain the actual plans to carry out medical benefit for prevention of diseases as follows:

The grounds are 1) articles 102 and 130 of I.L.O.; 2) reduction of medical fees for prevention of diseases; 3) development of a comprehensive medical system, including prevention of diseases, medical treatment, and rehabilitation; and 4) creation of a democratic regional medical system participated in by the residents.

The actual plans are 1) to include medical benefit for prevention of diseases, especially physical check-up, into the legal medical benefits of various health insurances; 2) to establish relations between organizations for simple health check-up and those for close examination, to decide on standards of expenses for various medical examinations, and to lighten the general public's burdens for medical examination by increasing burdens of public organizations; 3) to improve facilities and personnel of organizations for close examination with the financial aid from the government and local governments; and 4) to distribute health memo-books to the residents so that their health conditions may be made clear and to clarify the roles of health centers, doctors, and public hospitals so that the health control system can be established.

HEALTH SERVICE AND THE COMMUNITY

(Vol. 7, No. 2)

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Since the new system of public health administration was introduced after the World War II, the concept "health is a community affair" has been recognized by the people, and activities to organize a cooperation for health services have developed.

The history of the development is reviewed and an example of comprehensive health services by our rural medical center is demonstrated.

(Chapter I and II)

Synthesizing of medical facilities is necessary to provide comprehensive personal health services of high quality to all people in urban communities, because his medical knowledges and its technological application lead to the emergence of complex tools and facilities.

The model of medical system in industrial society by M.G. Field is presented and discussed.

(Chapter III)

The principle of the regionalization of hospitals is explained, which is to be classified into two categories. The one is the monocentric type applied for the scattered populated region, and the other is the multicentric type for the densely populated region.

(Chapter IV)

The laissez-faire or matching system of medical facilities is criticized. The legislative procedure to stimulate cooperation of medical facilities of different ownership is desired. As an example of the legislation, R. M. P. and C. H. P. in the U. S. A. is evaluated.

(Chapter V)

ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND CASEWORK

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EIUCHI TAKEMURA

In this article, I would like to discuss the following four problems.

First, naturally the Social Security Law is a law closely connected with the social system of a country. In the western countries, however, the task to construct the "welfare country" has been carried out since the panic in 1929 with the support of the social reform movement in each country.

In Japan, however, relation between capital and political power has been so strong consistently since the Meiji Era that the Social Security Law of this country is featured more strongly by "strong rule by power" than by the mere theory of "rule by capital." The reason is that the labor movement, which is a means of social resistance, has been weak in Japan.

Accordingly, low wages, which have helped the high rate growth of Japan's capitalism, have been

a factor to decide on the low standard of benefit in the poor social security system in Japan. At the same time, the low standard of the benefit in this poor social security has also been a factor to lead to the low wages.

Second, I would like to discuss the "principle of self-reliance."

Naturally, the modern principle of self-reliance makes it possible for people to live independently. However, the principle will not be realized until the development and utilization of social resources are completed with the aid of national finance.

Generally speaking, the minimum wage system, the complete employment system, and the guarantee of medical services are the social conditions, which are necessary for the social security system to be effectively carried out.

In reference to livelihood rights, Japan's Constitu-

tion says: "In every field of livelihood, the State must work to improve and promote social welfare, social security, and public health," emphasizing the positive development of social resources as the state's duty.

In Japan, however, these social resources, which must safeguard people's livelihood, are in a very poor situation. This fact is proven by the sad incidents of old men's suicide and a whole family suicide.

The writer has pointed out this miserable situation as a problem of resourceless violation of people's welfare rights. As a result of the resourceless violation which ignores the development of social resources, people's rights concerning social security are becoming unsubstantial. The writer believes that it is unpardonable to play with and beautify the theory of social welfare in defiance of such a present situation in Japan. This is the third problem to which the writer would like to call attention.

What is the theory which prettify the present miserable situation? It is the theory about public help casework.

Activities for social welfare, casework, and public help casework have become weaker in Japan. This fact can be attributed to bureaucratism in Japan. In some cases, privacy of those who are the object of the casework was even violated. Under these circumstances, the casework system in Japan has become worse and worse.

Regrettably, in Japan, the theory and method of social casework, which must realize the development and utilization of social resources with the spirit of friendship and love, have served only to justify the inhuman minimum livelihood under the poor livelihood protection system.

In Japan, it is quite impossible to fine out the philosophy of social reform which is the fundamental principle of the social security system.

The Japanese casework can be said to be the "living-body test" by the authorities in the Japanese history of social security.

The writer believes that positive function of casework in Japan should be displayed not in public help but in medical treatment, rehabilitation, education, and other fields of social security.

Last and fourth, in order to secure humanistic welfare, the current livelihood protection law must be abolished. Also, in order to prevent intervention by public caseworkers, it is necessary to remove such "welfare services" as "self-reliance" and "livelihood guidance" from the livelihood protection law. The law must be changed into a law which has a nature similar to the Unemployment Insurance Law. The current livelihood protection law must safeguard citizens' rights by strengthening its function to guarantee income.

The main point of this article is that public help must neither hurt the dignity and welfare of those who are the object of casework nor collapse humanity.

ON REVISION PLAN OF PENSION SCHEMES IN U. K.

(Vol. 7, No. 4)

KIYOSHI MURAKAMI

In the public annuity system of England, the benefit standard was low. The unstable situation in the public annuity continued both for the financial reason and in relations between public annuity and private annuity. Under these circumstances, the Labor Party planned to complete the social security for old people by means of the public annuity proportioned to income. However, this plan did not materialize, because the Labor Party lost the reins of government in 1970. On the other hand, the conservative party announced a revised program to be carried out beginning in 1975 and started preparations for the revised program.

Three main points of the conservative party's revised program are as follows:

1) To change reserve for the fixed sum annuity from fixed reserve into that proportioned to income so that the financial foundation of the fixed sum annuity may be stabilized.

2) To adopt workshop annuity of a certain level or to force people to participate in the national reserve system so that all people may receive proportional annuity which complements fixed sum annuity.

3) To place all workshop annuity under a common accounting system lest those who change their work-

shops should lose their right to receive the workshop annuity.

It the conservative party stays in power for a long time in the future, the annuity system in England will be revised almost in accordance with this program. However, if the Labor Party takes power, its annuity plan might again revive. To what direction England's annuity program will proceed is connected with the problem as to what emphasis will be placed on enterprise annuity in accordance with the general

welfare plan of the country or the problem of to which field, public or private, in the economic activities of the country more emphasis will be placed.

Furthermore, for the reasons that the current welfare annuity system of Japan is similar to the public annuity system of England and that the fund of the current welfare annuity system of Japan follows the model of England, we cannot help being deeply interested in the revision of the annuity system in England.

FUNCTION OF NON-COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE—A PRELIMINARY ESSAY ON THE RELATION BETWEEN SOCIAL SECURITY AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

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TOSHIMASA MUKAI

One: Enterprise has two remuneration functions——

1) "material remuneration function" to pay wages in money and 2) "non-material remuneration function" to supply enterprise members with various means which satisfy their desires other than monetary income, such as position, leisure, and joy for work or at workshop. When enterprise members' new desire for the above matters other than monetary income becomes stronger as a result of the recent development of economic and social life, the importance of "non-material remuneration function" of enterprise increases. And this function has close relationship with social security in a new wider sense, which is aimed at stabilizing life of members of modern society.

Two: What ruling influence an enterprise member has upon other member is related to remuneration function of enterprise. To what extent an enterprise member can participate in deciding on and carrying out the enterprise's production program is a factor to know his "influence within the enterprise." As a result of expansion of enterprise structure and as a result of transition of power to control the enterprise from capitalists to non-capitalists, the more employees' influence within the enterprise grows and the more the tendency to

equalize enterprise members' influence within the enterprise is promoted, employees come to demand various remunerations in order to fulfill their desire to increase their influence in the enterprise. The various remunerations are 1) upper class white collar employees' positions based on bureaucratic rank, 2) monetary income of lower class white collar employees and physical workers, and 3) general employees' leisure and pleasant working conditions at workshops. At present, non-material remuneration function of 1) and 3) are becoming more and more important than material remuneration function of 2).

Three: When the enterprise structure, which is related to the development of economic and social life, is expanding, non-material remuneration function of enterprise must be discussed, from the viewpoint of enterprise policy, putting emphasis not only on decision of position in accordance with the principle of competition, which is connected with employees' ability and work, but also on increase in leisure and improvement of working conditions. This problem is also closely connected with stabilization and improvement of livelihood of low income people of lower class.