



C. O. Sappington, M. D., Dr. P. H., addressing the Foundation's Annual Meeting.

TRENDS IN INDUSTRIAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES

Progress Report of a Two-year Field Study on Industrial Health Department Functions and Relationships

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As previously mentioned in the preliminary report given at the last annual meeting of the Foundation, most surveys of this type are done on a quantitative basis—this study is qualitative for the most part, although some quantitative data have been secured. We are interested particularly in finding out what the policies and procedures of industrial health departments are, how they are administered, and what the results are as to the efficiency of their application.

The great majority of the contacts were made in person, although in some instances, on account of restrictions of travel and other difficulties, a minority has been reached by correspondence. Contacts which have been made in person for the past several years have been used and new ones have been made.

The active work began on this study during April, 1945 and has included 278 groups in 33 states, embracing the manufacture of diverse war and peace products, and also various types of services. The total population covered was 1,180,551, of which 861,396 were men and 319,155 were women.

It is important to keep in mind that the data herewith presented indicate trends only, that it would be an impossibility to get an accurate picture of what is being done in industry with respect to the various subheadings which are here considered. The period covered permitted us to get material during the latter part of the war and during the first year of reconversion.

In this interim report, only a few of the many important phases of the study have been selected for presentation and comment, including group classifications; examinations and dispensary service; other functions; intramural relationships; records and reports; and cost of service.

Group Classification

The first table shows the various sized groups and the percentage of the whole number of groups involved in each population grouping:

Size	No. Groups	%
Under 500	43	15.5
500 - 999	49	17.6
1000 - 1499	50	18.0
1500 - 1999	17	6.1
2000 - 3999	42	15.1
4000 - 9999	43	15.5
10000 & over	34	12.2
	278	100.0

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