

search on diabetes (see Table 1). The total expenditures recorded for the six-year period were over \$1,350,000, four-fifths from the government and one-fifth from private sources. It is of even greater significance to note the rapid increase in the attention given diabetes in this short period. In 1946 the expenditure of only \$6,700 was recorded; all of this came from private funds. In 1951 the sum from private funds had increased eleven-fold, approaching \$75,000; in the same year government support, which began in 1947, climbed beyond \$350,000.

It is apparent that fundamental research bearing ultimately on diabetes may not be classified under this heading. Attention should therefore be directed also to the total sums spent in the general fields relating to diabetes. For metabolism and nutrition the expenditure was \$7,681,603 in the six-year period; 55 per cent was provided by the government. For the endocrine system the amount was \$3,056,095, 75 per cent provided by the government.

A full appraisal of the results of the research activities made possible by these expenditures has not yet been attempted, and indeed is scarcely possible. However, one immediate result is already apparent, namely, the increase in the number of publications reporting investigations, and the establishment of new journals. An important by-product is the training of young investigators who are given the opportunity to develop interests and skills, which should yield dividends soon.

The present report will be viewed with a variety of feelings. Some will feel that nothing but good is indicated by these expenditures for medical research. Others will deplore the dominance of expenditures by the government. Still others will be conscious of the fact that expenditure alone is not an index of achievement. All will agree that even with increased financial support, progress in research will continue to depend on even more important factors—genius, inspiration, and work.

#### REFERENCE

<sup>1</sup> Deignan, Stella Leche, and Miller, Esther. The support of research in medical and allied fields for the period 1946 through 1951. *Science* 115:321-43, March 28, 1952.

#### PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

The annual meeting of the American Diabetes Association in June marked the conclusion of the twelfth year of its existence. During these dozen years, substantial achievements have been made, as outlined in the address of the retiring President, Dr. Arthur R. Colwell. Not the least of these has been the thorough appraisal of the purposes and policies of the Association, conducted under his leadership. The report of his Committee, presented in the first issue of *DIABETES*, will help to guide our present and future plans.

The meeting itself was highly successful from the standpoint of both attendance and program. The scientific papers were suitably diversified as to subject, and reached a high standard of quality. Many of them have been scheduled for publication in *DIABETES*, some appearing in this issue. An outstanding event was the delivery of the Banting Memorial Lecture on "Insulin" by Professor Charles H. Best.

The thirteenth year of this Association presents a new opportunity both to maintain and develop activities now in progress and to initiate new projects by which to achieve more fully the Association's objectives. Among the latter, two deserve mention at this time. One is the presentation of a post graduate course for advanced training of physicians in diabetes and related physiological problems; this is scheduled for January 19, 20 and 21 in Toronto. A second is the offer of a prize for the best paper on diabetes written by a student or intern, announced on page 338 of this issue.

The Journal, started in the current year, is still our newest venture of major importance. In this early stage of its existence, members of the Association are invited to submit constructive criticisms. Contributions will also be welcomed by the Editorial Board.

Suggestions and comments are also invited in regard to other phases of the Association's activities. Let us all work together to make this thirteenth year of the Association a year of good fortune and continued progress.

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