

NURTURING INTREPID CITIZENS

The Pioneer Health Centre and the politics of welfare in early 20th century London¹

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PART FIVE: WARTIME INTERLUDE WELFARE POLITICS: 1939-1945

In Part Five the lives of Williamson and Pearse and the work they did to promote the Pioneer Health Centre during the Second World War will be reviewed. Part Five will also cover the proposals for health and welfare reform developed during the war including the Beveridge Report and the various papers produced by the wartime coalition government. The response of the medical profession will be discussed as will Scott Williamson's own response which he presented in his book 'Physician Heal Thyself' published in 1945.

PART SIX: AUTUMN ST MARY'S ROAD REOPENS 1946-1950

Part Six will describe the campaign to re-open the Centre, the establishment of the Pioneer Health Centre School, the financial crisis facing the centre in the 1940s, the failed negotiations with the LCC and the Labour government for funding support prior to the final closure of the Centre in 1950.

PART SEVEN: CREATING THE NHS WELFARE POLITICS: 1946-1950

Part Seven will cover the establishment of the National Health Service and describe the implications of its tripartite structure, the triumph of the hospital and the specialist, the relative

neglect of primary care and the failure to establish the medical model of the health centre.

PART EIGHT: WINTER LATE WRITINGS 1951-1978

Williamson died in 1953 not long after he and Innes Pearse were married, following the death of his first wife. Part Eight will record how Pearse devoted the rest of her life to Williamson's and her legacy. She completed Williamson's theoretical treatise 'Science, Synthesis and Sanity' and wrote 'The Quality of Life', a book in which she tried to relate Williamson's theories to their practical work in the Pioneer Health Centre. These late writings will be reviewed as will Innes Pearse's involvement with 'The Pioneer Health Centre Limited'. This was the organisation that continued to promote Pearse and Williamson's ideas and to campaign for the establishment of other "genuine" health centres, following the closure of the Peckham Centre.

PART NINE: REFLECTIONS

Part Nine will include reflections on the relevance of the work of Williamson and Pearse and the Peckham Experiment today.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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