The Origin, Growth and Significance of the Mental Hygiene Movement

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Of the many mixed feelings with which I greet you, that which is uppermost at the moment is that at some day in the future, perhaps not far distant, those who follow us will look back upon this occasion and realize that it was a historic moment in the development of the movement for mental health. I myself personally have faith that this is so, and I have no doubt that many of you also have that same faith. Certainly those of you who have come from far distant lands must feel that this cause which we represent is one of no small moment.

It is fitting that this congress should have been so arranged as to open on this day, the sixth of May, which is the twenty-second anniversary of the formation of the first mental hygiene society in the world—

1 Presidential address delivered at the First International Congress on Mental Hygiene, Washington, D.C., May 6, 1930.
Editor's Summary