

2.—Statistics of Hospitals for Mentally Defective Persons in the Nine Provinces of Canada, latest year reported—concluded.

Items.	Man- itoba. ¹	Saskat- chewan. ²	Alberta. ³	British Colum- bia. ⁴
Number of institutions.....	3	2	3	3
Inmates (beginning of year).....	1,201	1,767	1,238	2,201
Admissions.....	211	500	381	542
Discharges and deaths.....	159	406	310	474
Improved or cured.....	-	-	205	177
Inmates (end of year).....	1,343	1,861	1,309	2,269
Staff—Doctors.....	268	8	-	9
Nurses.....	-	315	-	-
Revenue—Government grants.....	\$ -	-	484,688	660,632
Fees.....	\$ 52,038	145,936	121,870	122,554
Total.....	\$ 90,322	-	606,558	783,186
Expenditure—Salaries.....	\$ 196,347	292,772	177,726	305,508
Buildings and equipment.....	\$ -	389,544	213,179	133,787
Total.....	\$ 274,304	682,316	606,558	783,186

¹ Year (10 months) ended Aug. 31, 1922. ² Year ended Dec. 31, 1927. ³ Fifteen months ended Mar. 31, 1928. ⁴ Year ended Mar. 31, 1928.

Section 1.—Dominion Department of Health.

The Act of Parliament (9-10 George V, c. 24, An Act respecting the Department of Health), creating the Dominion Department of Health, clearly defined its functions as follows:—to protect the country against the entrance of infectious disease; to exclude immigrants who might become a charge upon the country; to treat sick and injured mariners; to see that men employed on public construction work were provided with proper medical care; to set the standards and control the quality of food and drugs, except meat and canned goods, which are under the Department of Agriculture; to control proprietary medicines and the importation and exportation of habit-forming drugs such as morphine, cocaine, etc.; to prevent the spread of the venereal diseases; to care for lepers and to co-operate with the provinces with a view to preserving and improving the public health. In order to preserve the principle of provincial sovereignty, sec. 7 of the Health Act was inserted. It is as follows:—"Nothing in this Act or in any regulation made thereunder shall authorize the Minister or any officer of the Department to exercise any jurisdiction or control over any Provincial or Municipal Board of Health or other health authority operating under the laws of any Province".

A more detailed description of the activities of the Dominion Department of Health will be found at pp. 956-958 of the 1927-28 Year Book. Under c. 39 of the Statutes of that year the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment and the Department of Health were merged as one Department.

Dominion Council of Health.—There was also created, in virtue of the Act, a Dominion Council of Health, consisting of the Deputy Minister of Health of Canada, acting as chairman, the chief executive officers of the various provincial Departments of Health and representatives of labour, the farm, public health science, education and women's organizations. Through this body matters of health which affect the country either in whole or in part are discussed, uniformity established and co-operation secured. (For a more complete description of this body, see 1926 Year Book, pp 908-909.)