

on public construction work are 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 venereal diseases; to care for lepers and to co-operate with the provinces with a view to preserving and improving the public health. The various divisions of the Department of Health, existing prior to the merger, are still maintained.

One of the subdivisions of the National Health Division is that of maritime quarantine. Its object is the prevention of the importation of major infectious diseases into the country. With this end in view, quarantine stations are in operation at the several maritime ports. Every vessel coming from abroad is inspected and passengers or crews who are found to be suffering from infectious disease, together with contacts, are removed to the quarantine station after the principles laid down in the Convention of Paris, 1926.

Associated with quarantine is the examination and medical care of immigrants. With this purpose in view there has recently been placed in Great Britain, Ireland and on the continent of Europe a staff of Canadian doctors, whose duty it is to examine at their homes and points of origin, or at the seaport of embarkation in Europe, all intending emigrants to Canada. By this arrangement it is hoped to obviate the expense, discomfort, disappointment and hardship which have so often occurred on account of the necessity of deporting to their country, owing to physical or mental disability, immigrants who have come all the way across the ocean and reached Canada.

For many years there have been in operation in Canada two lazarettos for the treatment of leprosy, one at Tracadie in the province of New Brunswick, and the other at William Head in the province of British Columbia. These are under the direction of the Department. Great advances have been made, not only in providing comforts for the lepers, but in the actual treatment of the disease.

Under Part V of the Canada Shipping Act, the Department treats sick and injured mariners entering Canadian ports on the payment of certain dues by ship-owners. Hospitals, hospital facilities and medical care are provided through the Division of Marine Hospitals' Service.

The Department co-operates with the provinces in assisting them in the control of venereal diseases and votes annually a sum of about \$100,000 which is divided *pro rata* among the provinces for this purpose. The provinces, however, must expend at least an equal amount.

In the field of child welfare, the Department co-operates with the provincial Departments and voluntary organizations and acts as a mentor and guide in directing the efforts of various bodies which are concerned with child welfare. A great mass of literature is distributed throughout the country, which reaches the outposts and is of very great value to parents as it helps them to care for their children and homes. Maternal mortality has also seriously occupied the Chief of the Branch of Child Welfare of the Department, and very valuable assistance has been given to the provinces, by statistics and otherwise, in stirring up public opinion to the terrible wastage of mothers' lives occurring on account of improper pre-natal care and careless medical attention, or entire lack of this, at maternal periods and in the early life of the child.