

has also seriously occupied the Chief of the division, and very valuable assistance has been given to the provinces, by statistics and otherwise, in arousing public opinion to the terrible wastage of mothers' lives through improper pre-natal care and careless medical attention, or entire lack of this, at the maternal periods and in the early life of the child.

Division of Sanitary Engineering.—The activities normally handled under Public Health Engineering include the administration of the Public Works Health Act, which supervises the health of men on construction works, canals, railways and other forms of public works.

By agreement with the U.S. Public Health Service, this branch investigates and reports on sources of water supplies for use aboard common carriers in international and interprovincial traffic between Canada and the United States. Special investigations and reports are made regarding pollution of the international boundary waters in conjunction with representatives of the U.S. Public Health Service. Supervision of water supplies of common carriers on the inland waters of Canada and in international and interprovincial traffic is another function. This branch co-operates with other Dominion departments *re* sanitation in National Parks and summer camps on Dominion lands and allied matters; with the American Railway Association regarding regulations on sanitation; with the provincial health departments and the U.S. Public Health Service for certifying water supplies of common carriers in interprovincial and international traffic.

Proprietary or Patent Medicine Division.—This division operates to give the public a reasonably safe and truthfully labelled proprietary medicine supply. Registration of all secret formula non-pharmacopœial medicines for human use is required, and control is exercised over the potent drugs employed in the manufacture of such medicines and the representations made regarding their use.

Laboratory of Hygiene.—The Laboratory of Hygiene is chiefly concerned with the control of biologic products used in treatment of human diseases, particularly with reference to the potency of certain toxins, antitoxins, and other serological preparations. Bacterial and other vaccines are scrutinized for purity, sterility and potency. Such powerful drugs as digitalis, strophanthus, ergot, pituitrin and the salvarsans, are examined for potency, and standards for them, based upon those of the League of Nations' Health Committee, are prepared by the Laboratory and furnished to all manufacturers desiring to use them in making their products. Disinfectants are investigated as to manufacturers' claims for germicidal qualities. Special and general aid is rendered to other departments of Government, and research problems are undertaken.

Food and Drugs Division.—In this division, inspection and laboratory services are maintained primarily for the purposes of the Food and Drugs Act, which is regulatory in character, designed to prevent the importation and sale of adulterated or misbranded foods and drugs. Laboratories in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver, normally examine about 12,000 samples annually, taken from suspected stocks. Corrective measures are applied whenever adulteration or misbranding is found. Standards of quality have been established for many products, and the informative, truthful label is a special objective. Laboratory services are provided for other divisions, and co-operation with other departments of Government is effectively carried on.