

**Out-Patient Departments.**—Out-patient departments as here reported include those institutions where medical or surgical treatment may be obtained either gratuitously or for a nominal fee, but which do not receive resident patients.

Out-patient departments or clinics are operated independently or in connection with the hospital, medical college, university or other institution. A dispensary or clinic in connection with a hospital is generally the out-patient department of the hospital, which treats patients who do not occupy beds in the hospital. Sometimes the out-patient department is kept distinct from the hospital and is a separate institution with its own staff, etc. Frequently, however, the out-patient department is but a part of the general hospital, housed in the same building, supervised by the same officials and cared for by the hospital doctors and nurses, the expenses of its upkeep being included in the general hospital expenditures. The extension of out-patient services to patients of modest means has far-reaching and beneficial effects. It may avoid admission to a hospital, or may serve to secure necessary and beneficial hospitalization. As most hospitals keep no separate record of actual expenses attached to out-patient departments, it was not possible in this report to give the operating expenses for out-patient services as, out of one hundred and sixty-one out-patient departments reporting, only 4 p.c. gave complete financial reports. As a general rule out-patient departments are subsidized from the funds of the general hospital and until a uniform system of accounting out-patient department expenses is adopted it is not possible to make deductions as to average cost per patient.

In Table 3 will be found statistics showing the number and type of out-patient departments, the number of patients treated and the number of visits paid in 1930.

**3.—Number of Out-Patient Departments by Provinces and by Type of Service together with the Number of Patients Treated and the Total Number of Visits, 1930.**

Province	Out-Patient Department.	Patients Treated, 1930.	Total Visits, 1930.	Departments Connected with Hospitals.	Departments Independent of Hospitals.	Total for General Cases.	Total for Special Cases. <sup>1</sup>
Prince Edward Island.....	2	428	1	2	0	0	2
Nova Scotia.....	7	2,519	31,454	6	1	6	1
New Brunswick.....	4	9,113	17,336	3	1	3	1
Quebec.....	52	471,823	805,839	44	8	30	22
Ontario.....	36	285,240	500,696	35	1	24	12
Manitoba.....	15	68,470	141,589	14	1	10	5
Saskatchewan.....	12	1,502	6,568	12	0	5	7
Alberta.....	16	25,285	41,839	15	1	12	4
British Columbia.....	23	48,727	72,423	23	0	21	2
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	3	1,785	1,785	3	0	3	0
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>914,892</b>	<b>1,619,529</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>56</b>

<sup>1</sup>Two out-patient departments in Prince Edward Island, 1 in Saskatchewan, 1 in Alberta and 2 in British Columbia keep no record of visits.

<sup>2</sup>Under this class are included such types of service as pre-natal clinics, chest clinics, venereal diseases clinics, gastro-intestinal clinics, orthopaedic clinics, child welfare centres and mothercraft centres.

**Subsection 2.—Mental Institutions.**

In Canada the majority of institutions for the insane and mentally defective are under Provincial Government control. In order to secure comparable data, seven schedules of inquiries were adopted. The questions asked were carefully planned after consultation with representatives of the Canadian National Association of Mental Hygiene and the Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. Special features of the census of Mental Institutions were: (a) the separate classification of first admissions from re-admissions, because it is believed that the best available index of the incidence of mental disease in the general population