

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 examine samples 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 supervision of informative, truthful label declarations is a special objective. Laboratory services are provided for other Divisions of the Department, and co-operation with other departments of government is effectively carried on.

**Narcotic Drug Division.**—Since the introduction of opium smoking in Canada forty or more years ago the use of habit-forming drugs, such as morphine, heroin, and cocaine, has increased. One of the first steps taken by the Department of Health was the creation of a Narcotic Branch. Through this Branch, the importation and sale of such drugs are controlled in accordance with the principles laid down by The Hague and Geneva Conventions. Wholesale agents and druggists are obliged to keep records of importation or sale and to forward their records periodically to the Department. The legitimate use of these habit-forming drugs is thus controlled.

#### **Subsection 2.—Public Health Activities of the Provincial Governments.\***

**Prince Edward Island.**—The supervision of public health matters in Prince Edward Island was placed, on July 1, 1931, under a specially created Department of Public Health, presided over by a Minister and his Deputy. Two part-time physicians, five full-time public health nurses and two sanitary and food inspectors are employed. Under the direction of the Deputy Minister, the province is divided into five public health districts and each nurse is assigned a territory in which she is responsible for the inspection of school children, home visits, home-nursing classes, immunizing and vaccinating clinics, etc. The sanitary and food inspectors make regular surveys of the food-manufacturing plants, school premises, hotels, boarding houses, restaurants, etc., throughout the province. The Government also operates the Falconwood Hospital for the Insane and the Provincial Infirmary.

In addition the Government subsidizes the Provincial Sanatorium, which has a capacity of sixty beds and has been functioning to capacity since July 1, 1931. In charge of the Provincial Sanatorium is a Medical Superintendent with an assistant and a staff of trained nurses. The Superintendent conducts chest clinics at regular intervals throughout the province as well as a regular weekly clinic in the Sanatorium, where referred cases from physicians are examined.

The Department of Health operates the Provincial Laboratory and a qualified technician is in charge, who examines material forwarded by physicians throughout the province.

**Nova Scotia.**—In Nova Scotia the Department of Public Health is under a Minister of Health. The Provincial Department, either directly or in conjunction with Municipal Boards of Health, offers certain services which are mainly concerned with control of communicable diseases, milk and water supplies, sewage disposal, pre-natal, post-natal and school hygiene, public health nursing, mental hygiene,

\* The material under this heading has been revised by the respective provincial authorities.