

dustrial Hygiene, Food and Drugs Act, Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, Quarantine Act, Public Works Health Act, Leprosy Act, Proprietary or Patent Medicines Act, The National Physical Fitness Act, Venereal Disease Control, Laboratory of Hygiene, Medical Investigation (Civil Service). Nutrition Services, Civilian Blind, and Public Health Engineering. While most of the divisions have been geared to meet wartime problems, the new Department is laying a foundation for a long-term, co-ordinated peacetime program. Among the extensions to existing services now under consideration are: national health insurance, financial assistance to provinces for prevention and treatment of tuberculosis, blindness, mental illness, crippling conditions in children, the training of professional public health personnel and public health research. The Department operates in close co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Public Health. Co-ordination of effort is secured through the Dominion Council of Health, an advisory group comprising the deputy minister of health of each province, the Deputy Minister of National Health (chairman), and other appointed members. Dominion public health matters are fully dealt with in Chapter XXI of this volume.

The Welfare Branch, created to administer Family Allowances and to develop other social security measures of the Dominion Government had, unlike the Health Branch, no previously existing counterpart. Its main concerns at present, which extend beyond the social insurances *per se*, include the recent assumption of administration of the Physical Fitness Act and steps to encourage wider cultural and recreational opportunities through community centres. The substantial growth of this new Branch, now largely decentralized through nine regional Family Allowances administrative offices, will be further increased when anticipated transfers from other Government Departments of certain of the existing Dominion social welfare services take place. See also Chapter XX of this volume.

Agricultural Supplies Board.—The Agricultural Supplies Board is a wartime control body which has operated since the outbreak of war. It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that Canadian agriculture is conducted during wartime in a manner to fulfil, so far as possible, the needs of Canada, the United Kingdom and the Allied Nations for food and other agricultural products. Combined with this, of course, is the responsibility of ensuring that the supplies needed for agricultural production in Canada, such as seeds, fertilizers, feeds, etc., are made available in sufficient quantities. In accomplishing its duties, the Board works in close co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, most of whom in turn have Provincial Production Committees working with field officers and directly with the farmers. The work of the Board in the early years of the War is outlined in previous issues of the Year Book, and the present review brings that material up to date.

Despite the termination of hostilities in Europe, the demand for agricultural commodities continues in order to meet British requirements, and to supply the needs of liberated Europe. Dairy products, particularly cheese, bacon and pork products, meat and meat products, shell eggs and egg powder, dehydrated vegetables, flax fibre and seeds, the principal commodities which Canada has provided through most of the war years, are still urgently required in large volume.

An annual conference was held in December, 1944, with representatives of Provincial Departments of Agriculture, delegates of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and other interested organizations, to plan the farm production best suited to meet requirements during 1945. This marks the third annual conference