

CHAPTER VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

CONSPECTUS

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PART I.—PUBLIC HEALTH

Section 1.—Administration

In Canada matters of public health are administered by Federal and Provincial Governments through their respective Health Departments.

The Federal Government has jurisdiction only over those public-health matters that are exclusively international, national and interprovincial.* It makes grants to Provincial Departments of Health and to voluntary organizations engaged in public-health work. An important development was inaugurated on May 14, 1948, when the Government's health program was announced, including annual grants totalling approximately \$30,000,000 to the provinces for health services and hospital construction. Following this announcement Parliament appropriated, for the year ended Mar. 31, 1949, funds for the following grants: health survey, \$625,000; hospital construction, \$13,000,000; general public health, \$4,395,000; tuberculosis control, \$3,000,000; mental health, \$4,000,000; venereal disease control, \$275,000 (in addition to the existing grant of \$225,000); crippled children, \$500,000; professional training, \$500,000; public health research, \$100,000; and cancer control, \$3,500,000. The grants will be provided under the terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council.

The Dominion Council of Health, created originally in 1919, is responsible for correlating and co-ordinating the activities of Provincial Departments of Health; it comprises the Deputy Minister of Health of each of the provinces as well as a representative of agriculture, labour, and urban and rural women, respectively, and a scientific adviser on public health.

Subsection 1.—Public Health Activities of the Federal Government

The Act of Parliament (8 Geo. VI, c. 22, 1944) creating the Department of National Health and Welfare clearly defines its functions. The Department is

* Treatment for ex-members of the Armed Forces is provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.