

when a separate Medical Branch was established in the Department of Indian Affairs. In 1945, Indian health services were transferred to the Department of National Health and Welfare and are now conducted through a small headquarters staff.

### **Consultative and Co-ordinating Services**

The principal co-ordinating agency in the health field in Canada is the Dominion Council of Health composed of the Deputy Minister of National Health as Chairman, the chief executive officer of each Provincial Health Department and five other persons. The Council advises the Minister of National Health and Welfare on the formulation of policy. It is largely responsible for the development of an integrated and co-operative health program and for the establishment of services for the benefit of Provincial Health Departments by the Federal Government. Dominion-Provincial Committees under the Dominion Council of Health deal with specific aspects of public health.

The Department of National Health and Welfare carries on an active program of co-ordinating and consultative services for the provinces, through its various divisions—Venereal Disease Control, Blindness Control, Child and Maternal Health, Industrial Health, Nutrition, Mental Health, Dental Health, Epidemiology, Hospital Design, Laboratory of Hygiene, Physical Fitness, Information Services, and Research. These divisions also provide technical information and advice and, independently and in co-operation with other departments and agencies, conduct surveys and research in the development and evaluation of programs and procedures including the establishment of standards.

The Department was instrumental in calling conferences of interested individuals and representatives of various organizations to consider the problems of cancer and arthritis. These meetings resulted in the establishment in 1947 of the National Cancer Institute of Canada and in 1948 of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society.

## **Section 2.—Health Activities of the Provincial Governments**

**Newfoundland.**—In Newfoundland, where there has been little development of local government organization, administration of health measures is largely centralized in the Department of Public Health and Welfare. In addition to public health functions the Department, which was established in 1934, administers hospitals and is responsible for the provision of medical care in large areas of the Province. When Newfoundland entered Confederation, Mar. 31, 1949, separate portfolios for Health and Welfare were established.

The Public Health Division of the Department is under the administration of a Director of Medical Services. Specific functions of the Division include: provision of medical care to the indigent; operation of hospitals, the cottage hospital scheme and nursing services; the carrying on of tuberculosis, communicable disease and venereal disease control programs, and inspection services. A trained nutritionist directs publicity and education programs in nutrition, and the Department takes an active part in school health programs both through educational work and by such activities as the distribution to schools of chocolate milk powder and cod liver oil for school children.

A free service is provided through the Tuberculosis Dispensary at St. John's which makes diagnostic and treatment services available to the city and acts as a centre for Tuberculosis Control for the Province. All cottage hospitals are equipped