

of children suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. Maternity patients may be hospitalized at provincial expense for a twelve-day period. In addition a small money grant may be given to any expectant mother in poor financial circumstances.

One-third of the population of the Province is provided with hospitalization at a minimum charge through the Municipal Hospitals Act. Under its terms general ward care is provided to the residents of municipalities which unite to form a Hospital-District and to non-residents who pay a fixed annual fee. The charge to patients under the Act is fixed at \$1 per day; the remainder of the cost under the scheme is obtained through a property tax levied within the District and a provincial per diem grant. Any services additional to standard ward care must be paid for by the patient.

Provincial grants-in-aid to Health Units cover 60 p.c. of the total cost of operation. In addition the Department pays 70 cents per patient per day for a specified period to approved hospitals. It makes an orthopaedic grant to hospitals of 90 cents per day and pays one-third of the cost of a special mental hygiene service in the schools of the Edmonton Rural Health Unit. A grant, equivalent to the salary of one nurse, is paid to the City of Edmonton Health Department for a Child Hygiene Clinic.

British Columbia.—The Department of Health and Welfare, with one Cabinet Minister, has two branches under the supervision of the Deputy Minister of Health and the Deputy Minister of Welfare, respectively.

The Health Branch is divided into three bureaus, two of which are located at Victoria while the other is at Vancouver. The Bureau of Local Health Services, located at Victoria, consists of the Nutrition Service and the Division of Health Units, Public Health Nursing, Environmental Sanitation, and Preventive Dentistry. Also at Victoria are headquarters of the Divisions of Vital Statistics and Public Health Education which are grouped in the Bureau of Central Administration. The Divisions of Tuberculosis Control, Venereal Disease Control and Laboratories have their headquarters at Vancouver, and are grouped in the Bureau of Special Preventive and Treatment Service.

In addition to certain province-wide activities, the Health Branch through its Bureau of Local Health Services supervises local public health activities. The Province is divided into Health Units and Public Health Nursing Districts each consisting of several school districts. Nine of the 18 Health Units planned are in operation and a generalized health program is provided by a physician, public health nurses, a sanitary inspector and a statistical clerk. In more isolated areas, the Public Health Nursing Districts staffed by public health nurses and sanitary inspectors operate as forerunners to Health Units. Vancouver and Victoria have their own Health Departments, while some of the other centres have part-time medical officers. With the exception of the latter and the Vancouver and Victoria staffs all field public health personnel are employed by the Provincial Department. Approximately 94 p.c. of the population of the Province is served by full-time trained public health personnel.

General public health services are operative throughout the Health Units and unorganized territory. Stationary and mobile tuberculosis clinics provide free diagnostic and consultative service to all residents; venereal disease clinics stationed