

The Health League of Canada.—The Health League of Canada is a voluntary association devoted to a program of health education. Through the media of press, radio, poster, pamphlet, motion picture and the public platform, the League keeps the public informed concerning the health value of milk pasteurization, immunization procedures for preventable diseases, proper nutritional habits, sanitary work practices by public food-handlers and organized health programs for industrial workers. Particular divisions deal with these specific health problems; a social hygiene division conducts a program against the spread of venereal disease.

The League supplements its year-round program with the annual sponsoring of National Health and National Immunization Weeks. During these two weeks all branches and divisions of the League co-operate with Federal, provincial and local health authorities particularly in publicizing general health practices and immunization procedures.

Health League branches have been organized in several provinces and are particularly active in Ontario and Quebec. A Voluntary Committee on Health of the Senate and House of Commons has been organized by the Health League to disseminate information to Members of Parliament and to serve as a forum for their discussion of health matters.

The Order of St. John.—The Order of St. John in Canada has its headquarters and national offices at Ottawa with branches in every province, and local centres in hundreds of cities, towns and villages throughout Canada. The Order has two subsidiary branches, the St. John Ambulance Association and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the first devoted to teaching, the second to rendering voluntary public assistance as required. The primary purpose of the Order is to teach first-aid, home nursing, child welfare, sanitation, hygiene and kindred subjects to citizens of Canada irrespective of age, race and creed, and to provide trained and organized personnel to help in time of disaster or national emergency.

The Canadian branch was organized in 1895 and since that time more than one and a quarter million persons have been trained and have passed examinations in the various subjects. Uniformed members of the Order are to be found ready to render assistance at large gatherings such as exhibitions. During the winter season members are in attendance on many ski-runs to provide first-aid to the injured.

A blood grouping program was started early in 1943 in order that compatible donors may be obtained in emergencies with the least possible delay. Since the inception of the program upwards of 175,000 persons have been classified by blood-group.

The Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada.—The Victorian Order of Nurses is a voluntary public health agency, national in scope and having as its primary object the care of the sick in their own homes by visiting nurses. The Order provides a community service available to everyone in the area served. Care is given under medical direction by visiting nurses to medical, surgical and maternity patients, a large percentage of whom would otherwise be without skilled nursing care.