

organizations actively engaged in the fitness and recreation field. Some participating provinces have established similar advisory bodies; others utilize interdepartmental committees.

The Physical Fitness Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare administers the grants to the provinces, performs the administrative work of the National Council on Physical Fitness, co-operates with other Federal Departments and with national agencies and organizations, collects and distributes information originating in this and other countries, interprets the national program of fitness through publications and reports, and is concerned with the conducting of research, experiments and demonstrations.

Provincial programs are administered by the Departments of Education in all provinces except Nova Scotia and Manitoba where they are the responsibility of the Department of Public Health and the Department of Health and Public Welfare, respectively. Saskatchewan and Manitoba have passed provincial physical fitness legislation; programs in other provinces are operated under departmental regulation. The actual carrying out of fitness and recreation projects is, principally, a local responsibility and the provincial program is therefore organized with a view to strengthening and aiding the community and agencies active in the field. The underlying policies are: the development of a program of fitness in relation to the needs and determined priorities of the local community; the courses and, in some instances, the payment of salaries; co-ordination and extension of existing agencies, with programs being initiated only where agencies are not available to undertake them; and, in certain provinces, the provisions of financial aid to local programs approved by the province.

Liaison with other countries was strengthened by the visit of the Assistant Director of the Division to the Lingiad in Stockholm, Sweden, and the International Congress for Physical Education for Girls and Women in Copenhagen, Denmark. In Canada increasing co-operation between national organizations interested in fitness and recreation programs was achieved through the joint meetings held in April, 1949, by the National Council on Physical Fitness and the Canadian Drama Festival and by convening a second National Conference of Sports Governing Bodies.

The development of the program in all provinces has been characterized by emphasis on community recreational planning which is particularly Canadian in character. An important trend has been the great increase in co-operative effort through the donation of labour by members of the community for construction projects and the sharing among small centres of facilities and equipment. Shortage of trained personnel remained the most serious obstacle to the expansion of programs. To assist in overcoming this shortage the Federal Government again provided a number of scholarships, to be awarded on the recommendation of the National Council, for the post-graduate training of fitness and recreational personnel.

The Division has prepared and published many booklets and pamphlets on community recreation, facilities and equipment and has been especially productive in the field of theatre arts. In co-operation with the National Film Board, a film strip on *Simplified Staging* was completed. Films used for instructional purposes to further the fitness movement include *Fit for Tomorrow*, *Fitness is a Family Affair*, and *When all the People Play*. In addition, films from other sources, approved by national appraisal committees, are made available through the preview film library service maintained by the Physical Fitness Division.