

The Canadian Junior Red Cross promotes health and good citizenship in schoolroom branches across Canada. As part of its program, the Junior Red Cross Crippled Children's Fund is maintained to assist in providing treatment for handicapped children.

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. 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 services. Patients are expected to pay the cost of the home visits, but fees are scaled according to family income and service is never refused because of inability to pay.

Part-time nursing service is given in industrial plants where the number of employees does not warrant full-time employment of a nurse. In smaller centres where the Order provides the only public health nurse, the program is usually enlarged to include school nursing, assistance at immunization clinics and child health centres and other public health services.

The Health League of Canada.—The Health League of Canada is a voluntary association devoted to health education. Through the media of press, radio, posters, pamphlets, motion pictures 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. The League supplements its year-round program with the annual sponsoring of National Health and National Immunization Weeks.

The Order of St. John.—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 1,250,000 persons have been trained and have passed examinations in various subjects. The Order has its headquarters and national offices at Ottawa, branches in every province and local centres in hundreds of cities, towns and villages throughout Canada. There are two subsidiary branches, the St. John Ambulance Association and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the first devoted to teaching and the second to rendering voluntary public assistance as required. A blood-grouping program was started early in 1943 so that compatible donors might be obtained with the least possible delay in emergencies.

The Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society.—The Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society was incorporated in 1948 for the purpose of reducing morbidity and mortality from arthritic and rheumatic diseases. Its objectives include the raising of funds to support research, the education of professional personnel and of the general public, and the promotion and organization of treatment facilities. A Medical Advisory Board composed of leading physicians, surgeons and scientists advises on the research program, professional education and public relations.