

immigration. It also provides care for sick mariners as required under Part V of the Canada Shipping Act, and has certain national and international responsibilities with regard to the pollution of boundary and other waters.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, the Proprietary or Patent Medicine Act and the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, the Department is responsible for the control of the safety and purity of food and drugs; the registration, preparation and sale of proprietary or patent medicines; and control of the import, export and distribution of narcotic drugs.

The Department advises on the visual eligibility of applicants for blindness allowances and co-operates with the provinces in the provision of surgical or remedial treatment for selected recipients of these allowances; it is responsible for supervision of health conditions for persons employed on federal public works, as provided under the Public Works Health Act, and maintains a program for the conservation and promotion of the health of civil servants and other Federal Government employees. Medical advisory services are provided for the Department of Transport in all matters pertaining to the safety, health and comfort of air crew and passengers.

The National Health Grant Program.*—The National Health Grant Program, introduced in 1948, provides for the payment of federal grants to the provinces for the development of health and hospital services; at the present time 12 grants are available.

Since the inception of the program the provinces have steadily increased their utilization of the grants. The annual amounts of expenditure in each fiscal year have been as follows: 1948-49, \$7,600,000; 1949-50, \$15,500,000; 1950-51, \$18,700,000; 1951-52, \$23,900,000; 1952-53, \$27,300,000; and 1953-54, \$29,500,000. Between 1948 and 1953, expenditures amounted to 53.1 p.c. of the funds available; figures below show that the proportion for 1953-54 was 60.2 p.c.

* A special article on the first five years of the National Health Grant Program is given in the 1954 Year Book, pp. 215-223.

1.—Amounts Available to the Provinces and Amounts and Percentages Expended under the National Health Grant Program, by Grant, Year Ended Mar. 31, 1954

Grant	Amount Available ¹	Amount Expended	Percentage Expended ²
	\$	\$	p.c.
Cancer control.....	3,598,795	2,363,488	65.7
Crippled children.....	519,898	449,213	86.4
General public health.....	7,215,000	5,081,778	70.4
Hospital construction.....	19,850,651 ³	9,114,164	45.9
Mental health.....	6,203,652	5,193,141	83.7
Professional training.....	516,300	699,782	135.5
Public health research.....	512,900	436,654	85.1
Tuberculosis control.....	4,239,531	4,460,766	105.2
Venereal disease control.....	518,099	447,339	86.3
Child and maternal health ⁴	500,000	114,342	22.9
Laboratory and radiological services ⁴	4,329,000	764,740	17.7
Medical rehabilitation ⁴	500,000	58,522	11.7
Totals.....	48,563,826	29,183,929	60.2

¹ Authorized by P.C. 471-1953.

² Expenditures may exceed 100 p.c. of amounts available through transfer of unexpended funds from one grant to another.

³ Grant consisted of \$6,856,884 for new projects and a re-vote of \$12,993,767 to complete projects approved before Apr. 1, 1953, on which construction started before Oct. 1, 1953.

⁴ These grants were first introduced in the fiscal year 1953-54.