

Under the Program up to the end of the fiscal year 1953-54, aid for construction was approved for 49,000 beds, over 6,000 bassinets, approximately 6,400 nurses' beds and space in community health centres and combined laboratories exceeding 3,000 bed equivalents. Approximately 6,500 health workers had been trained or were undergoing special training, and more than 4,800 additional health workers had been employed with federal grant assistance. Preventive and treatment services across the country had been greatly extended, health facilities had been aided by the purchase of additional technical equipment and a significant increase in health research had been made possible.

Federal Grants to Non-governmental Organizations.—Grants are paid directly to the following non-governmental agencies engaged in health work: the Canadian Red Cross Society, the Canadian Tuberculosis Association, the Victorian Order of Nurses, the St. John Ambulance Association, the Canadian Paraplegic Association, the Canadian Mental Health Association, the Health League of Canada, the Canadian Public Health Association, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, L'Association Canadienne-Française des Aveugles, L'Institut Nazareth de Montréal, the Montreal Association for the Blind and the Canadian Ophthalmological Society.

Federal grants are also provided under the National Health Grant Program to assist in the operation of special treatment services carried out in a number of provinces by voluntary organizations, such as the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society and various agencies engaged in the rehabilitation of crippled children.

Medical Care of Indians and Eskimos.—Health services for Indians and Eskimos are administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare. In 1953, 20 hospitals, 42 nursing stations and 61 other health centres were operated by the Department which also reimburses, on a per diem basis, the mission and other non-federal hospitals that provide accommodation for Indians and Eskimos. Full-time departmental medical officers serve the larger Indian reserves and part-time officers serve the smaller bands. In some cases, fees are paid to local physicians for services to Indians.

Consultative and Co-ordinating Services.—The principal co-ordinating agency in the health field in Canada is the Dominion Council of Health, which is composed of the Deputy Minister of National Health who serves as chairman, the chief health officer of each province and five other persons. The Council advises the Minister of National Health and Welfare on the formulation of policy. It is largely responsible for the development of a co-operative health program and for the establishment of services by the Federal Government to assist the provincial health departments. Federal-provincial committees of the Council deal with specific aspects of public health.

Certain Divisions of the Department provide technical information and advice concerning the evaluation of programs and procedures and the establishment of standards in various health fields, and conduct surveys in research and development both independently and in co-operation with other departments and agencies. These Divisions include Blindness Control, Child and Maternal Health, Occupational Health, Nutrition, Mental Health, Dental Health, Epidemiology, Hospital Design, the Laboratory of Hygiene, Information Services, and Research.