

teachers from all provinces. Provincial branches seek to promote a better understanding of the problems of mental illness and the need for community participation in mental health services. The program of the Association also includes fact-finding surveys of current mental health services and research studies of specific aspects of mental illness and social behaviour.

Other National Health Organizations.—Additional voluntary agencies are engaged in a variety of health activities including financial support and operation of educational programs, research and training, and the provision of treatment. These activities may be directed towards the general public or towards specific categories of ill or disabled persons, such as the paraplegics. Some organizations, such as those dealing with the blind and the deaf, are interested in the welfare as well as the health problems of the groups served. Organizations of professional medical and related personnel, in particular of public health personnel, assist in the development of agencies and in guiding their activities.

PART IV.—VETERANS HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES*

Section 1.—The Department of Veterans Affairs

The great majority of veterans have now been assimilated into civilian life and the work of the Department of Veterans Affairs has settled into a well-defined pattern, its major functions being concerned with medical treatments and allowances, payment of pensions, welfare work, rehabilitation of the disabled and land settlement. The Department maintains 18 district offices and two sub-district offices in Canada as well as a district office at London, England. The administration of the Veterans' Land Act is conducted through eight district offices and 35 regional offices. Travelling settlement officers operate from the regional offices and serve the veterans settled throughout Canada.

The basis of administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, established in 1944, is dealt with in the 1946 Year Book, pp. 1053-54. The work of the Department as it developed year by year is outlined in subsequent editions and is brought up to Mar. 31, 1954, in the following Sections.

Section 2.—Medical, Dental and Prosthetic Services

Medical Services.—It is the policy of the Department to give veterans the most modern medical treatment possible. Where a Departmental hospital is situated in proximity to a medical school, close co-operation is maintained between the two. Veterans hospitals are actively engaged in undergraduate and post-graduate teaching, and members of the medical faculties are employed in the hospitals with other specialists. Eleven hospitals have received approval by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for advanced post-graduate teaching in internal medicine and general surgery. Seven of these are also approved for advanced post-graduate teaching in specialties. The majority of the consultant staffs at Departmental hospitals are employed on a part-time basis and are also engaged in medical teaching.

Professional and other members of the university staffs are employed as consultants and advisers in the same way as medical consultants. Thus, the Department receives expert advice in nursing, pathology, medical social services and other medical sciences.

* Contributed by the various Branches of the Department of Veterans Affairs.