## CHAPTER VI.—PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY\*

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Note.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

## PART I.—PUBLIC HEALTH

## HEALTH IN CANADA

Advances in medical sciences and the development of health services have contributed to a marked improvement in the health of Canadians during recent years. Higher nutritional standards, better housing and the growth of social services have had a favourable influence. The greatest development in these areas has taken place since the end of the second world war, a period marked by record high fertility and relatively heavy immigration. There has also been a marked shift in health indices. Canada's crude death rate and maternal, infant, and neonatal death rates have shown as much proportionate decrease in the past ten years as had occurred during the previous twenty.

<sup>\*</sup> Except where otherwise indicated, this Chapter was prepared by the Research and Statistics Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa.