

Food and Drug Control.—The Food and Drugs and Proprietary or Patent Medicine Acts govern the safety, purity and quality as well as the labelling and advertising of all foods, drugs (except narcotic drugs), therapeutic devices and cosmetics. Standards of safety and purity are maintained through constant and widespread inspection and laboratory research. In the central Food and Drugs laboratory, standards governing ingredients are formulated and methods of analysis developed. Special research is carried on to establish the safety of new products. Recently this has involved intensive study in the field of pesticides and in chemical additives used in foods. Several panels of experts advise on technical and medical problems.

Control of the import, export and distribution of narcotic drugs is administered under the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, and includes regulation of domestic supply and suppression of illicit traffic. Enforcement of the law is carried out in collaboration with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other agencies.

Indian and Northern Health Services.—The Department of National Health and Welfare makes available public health, medical and hospital services to about 152,000 Indians and 11,000 Eskimos. The program relative to Indians is administered by the Directorate of Indian and Northern Health Services in conjunction with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, and for Eskimos in collaboration with the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

Services are provided directly to about 2,000 small scattered groups through a network of 18 hospitals, 41 nursing stations and about 66 other health centres staffed by full-time medical officers, dental surgeons and graduate nurses. In areas where departmental staff or facilities are not located, private practitioners and provincial or community health agencies care for these groups in return for fees for service, payment of per diem rates or other arrangements. Special emphasis is placed on tuberculosis control through health education, field X-ray surveys, BCG vaccination and early treatment in sanatoria.

Immigrants.—The Department of National Health and Welfare advises on the administration of sections of the Immigration Act dealing with health, and conducts in Canada and overseas the medical examination of applicants for immigration. It also provides necessary health care for immigrants who become ill en route to their destination or while awaiting employment. Further assistance in the provision of hospital and medical services is available to indigent immigrants during their first year in Canada either by the Federal Government or by the province with federal sharing of costs.

Sick Mariners and Lepers.—Under the authority of Part V of the Canada Shipping Act, the Department of National Health and Welfare provides medical and hospital care on a compulsory prepaid basis for crew members of all foreign-going ships arriving in Canada and for crews of coastal vessels in interprovincial trade. Crew members of Canadian fishing and government vessels may participate on an elective basis. In any one year, approximately 100,000 non-Canadian members of foreign-going ships are insured, together with about 20,000 Canadians, 16,000 of whom are employed on fishing vessels, 2,500 on government vessels and 1,500 in coastal shipping. Treatment is available for a period of up to one year for all conditions except prolonged mental illness. Under the Leprosy Act the Department maintains one unit for the treatment of leprosy at Tracadie, N.B.

Health Research.—The National Research Council, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Defence Research Board and the Department of Veterans Affairs all administer grants-in-aid of medical, public health or socio-economic health research. The latter three also conduct intramural research. Federal funds amount to about 50 p.c. of over-all expenditure on medical research in Canada.

The Division of Medical Research of the National Research Council, set up in 1946, offers grants chiefly for fundamental studies in basic medical science; these total about \$750,000 annually.