

Other Diseases or Disabilities.—Services for a number of chronic disabilities, such as heart disease, arthritis, diabetes, visual and auditory impairments, paraplegia and cerebral palsy, are being developed largely by voluntary agencies, assisted by federal and provincial funds.

Rehabilitation Services.—There has been a steady expansion in all provinces of specialized medical, vocational, employment and educational services to aid in the rehabilitation of the disabled to their maximum physical, social and economic independence. To bring together the activities of the various organizations providing a rehabilitation service, co-ordinating bodies have been formed at community, provincial and federal levels.

To support provincial rehabilitation programs the federal Department of Labour provides two matching grants—one to assist in the co-ordination and development of vocational rehabilitation, authorized under the federal-provincial co-ordination agreements, and a second specifically for vocational training under Schedule R of the Vocational Training Agreement. The Department of National Health and Welfare under the National Health Program provides grants to the provinces for medical rehabilitation of disabled persons, including the tuberculous, the mentally ill, and crippled children and adults. In 1957-58, the provinces utilized \$633,000 from the Medical Rehabilitation Grant to provide special equipment and expand services in hospitals and rehabilitation centres, and to train needed personnel such as doctors and physiotherapists. The Department of Veterans Affairs operates special centres for the treatment of various chronic conditions and assessment and rehabilitation units for geriatric patients. New rehabilitation programs have been established by the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration for socially and physically handicapped Indians, and by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources for Eskimos who require re-establishment. The Special Placements Division of the National Employment Services also provides a job placement service for the handicapped.

Provincial vocational rehabilitation programs have been organized to make available medical, social and vocational services to persons handicapped by mental or physical disability. In each province specialized medical rehabilitation facilities have been set up in general hospitals and, in most of the provinces, rehabilitation centres offer integrated services. Four of these centres are operated by provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards which have experimented in methods of physical and vocational rehabilitation. All provinces make some provision for the education of handicapped children such as the blind, deaf, the mentally retarded, and frequently the physically handicapped in general, either through the operation of special schools or by financial grants.

Provincial and local branches of voluntary agencies, supported by service clubs and in some instances, community funds, provide important treatment and rehabilitation as well as preventive services. Such organizations include the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, the Canadian Foundation for Poliomyelitis and the crippled children's societies. Although the last-named still provide most of the services for orthopaedically handicapped children, together with children's hospitals and clinics, four provinces are developing their own programs. In most provinces voluntary agencies also operate sheltered or industrial-type workshops for the handicapped, some of which offer facilities for vocational testing and training.

Hospital and Medical Care.—*Hospital Care.*—The four provinces with hospital insurance plans in operation prior to the passing of the federal Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act of 1957—Newfoundland, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia—amended their programs to bring them into conformity with the federal Act from July 1, 1958. A fifth province, Manitoba, commenced its plan on the same date and Nova Scotia and Ontario on Jan. 1, 1959.

All seven plans, in conformity with the federal Act, provide in-patient services in active treatment and chronic and convalescent hospitals to all residents of the province under uniform conditions. Services include standard ward accommodation and nursing, necessary laboratory, diagnostic and radiological procedures, use of operating room and anaesthetics,