

Assisted projects mainly fall into one of the following areas: prevention of disease and disability; operational or administrative research on health programs and services; epidemiological studies; or environmental health, sanitation and public health engineering.

The Defence Research Board sponsors both intramural and extramural research on medical problems of defence interest (see Chap. XXVI, Sect. 1, Subsect. 4). In addition, a special unit to conduct research in aviation medicine is in operation at McGill University. The Department of Veterans Affairs maintains a program of medical research in its hospitals and clinics across Canada, mainly dealing with conditions affecting aging, such as arthritis and arteriosclerosis (see also p. 334). The Queen Elizabeth II Fund for Research in the Diseases of Children, established by the Federal Government in 1959, makes a fixed annual sum available for training researchers and scientists in children's diseases.

International Health.—Canada actively assists and co-operates with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the other specialized agencies of the United Nations whose programs have a substantial health component or orientation. Capital and technical assistance are provided to developing countries through the Colombo Plan and other bilateral aid programs. Health training is provided for a number of persons coming to Canada each year under the different technical co-operation schemes (see p. 171 and pp. 178-181); during 1965, 112 trainees arrived, bringing the total number of trainees in Canada during the year to 282. These persons were working in a wide range of health disciplines under the External Aid Program but with greatest concentration in undergraduate medicine and in public health and nursing specialties.

Canadian experts in health legislation, health administration and related areas undertook specific assignments abroad during the year and teachers and specialists in a number of clinical fields were provided in response to requests from the developing countries. Capital assistance, primarily through the provision of cobalt beam therapy units for cancer treatment centres in the Colombo Plan area, was continued.

Canada concluded its membership on the Executive Board of the WHO in May 1965 but its term of office on the Executive Board of UNICEF was renewed at the beginning of the year. The Deputy Minister of National Welfare, Canada's representative on the Board, was elected Chairman for the period commencing February 1966 through July 1968.

To carry out Canada's obligations under the International Sanitary Conventions, the Department of National Health and Welfare maintains quarantine measures for ships and aircraft entering Canadian ports and provides accommodation and necessary medical care for persons arriving in Canada who require quarantine (see p. 287).

The Department is responsible for the enforcement of regulations governing the handling and shipping of shellfish under the International Shellfish Agreement between Canada and the United States and, at the request of the International Joint Commission, participates in studies connected with control of pollution of boundary waters between Canada and the United States as well as with problems caused by atmospheric pollution. Other international health responsibilities include the custody and distribution of biological, vitamin and hormone standards for WHO and certain duties in connection with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as well as Canada's representation on the Narcotic Commission of the United Nations.

Subsection 8.—Consultative and Technical Services

The extension of technical and consultative assistance to the provinces is a function of the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The following specialized services supply consultation and information, advise on health care projects, co-ordinate activities and planning, and exercise leadership in promoting high standards of service: Aerospace Medicine and Safety; Child and Maternal Health; Dental Health; Emergency Health; Epidemiology; Health Education; Laboratory of Hygiene; Medical Rehabilitation; Mental Health; Nursing; Nutrition; Occupational Health; Planning and