

The Defence Research Board sponsors both intramural and extramural research on medical problems of defence interest and supports a special unit to conduct research in aviation medicine established at McGill University. The Department of Veterans Affairs maintains a program of medical and dental research in its clinics across Canada dealing mainly with conditions related to aging.

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.

The Smoking and Health Research Program was initiated in 1963 as part of an educational and research program on the health hazards of cigarette smoking.

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. 173 and pp. 184-188); during 1966, 133 trainees arrived, bringing the total number of trainees in Canada during the year to 326. These persons were studying in a wide range of health disciplines under the External Aid Program but with greatest concentration in undergraduate medicine and in public health.

Canadian experts in health legislation, health administration, nursing 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. A special feature during the year was the provision of over 600,000 doses of oral polio vaccine for a campaign among children in Saigon, Viet-Nam.

Canada's membership on the Executive Board of UNICEF was renewed at the beginning of 1965. 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. 301).

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 and Special Programs

The extension of technical and consultative assistance to the provinces is a function of the Health Services Branch and the Health Insurance and Resources Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The following services supply consultation and information, advise on health care projects, co-ordinate activities and planning, and exercise leadership in promoting high standards of service: Child and Maternal Health; Dental Health; Emergency Health; Epidemiology; Health Education; Laboratory of