

*Occupational Health.*—Services designed to prevent accidents and occupational diseases and to maintain the health of employees are the common concern of provincial health departments, labour departments, workmen's compensation boards and industry management. Provincial agencies regulate working conditions and offer consulting and educational services to industry. All provinces have legislation (Factory Acts, Shop Acts, Mines Acts, Workmen's Compensation Acts) setting health safety standards for employment.

*Communicable Disease Control.*—There are separate divisions of epidemiology or communicable disease control in the six larger provinces; in the Atlantic Provinces these functions are handled by provincial medical health officers. Local health authorities undertake case-finding and diagnostic services in co-operation with public health laboratories, carry out epidemiological investigations and often participate in tuberculosis and venereal disease control measures.

*Maternal and Child Health.*—Services for mothers and children are largely decentralized through local units and departments, but most provinces maintain separate divisions or employ consultants to promote better standards. Public health nurses have a prominent place in this work, which may include prenatal education, provision for delivery and care of the newborn in remote areas, home visits, child health clinics and school health services.

*Dental Health.*—All provincial health departments have dental health divisions which administer programs, varying under local conditions but directed almost entirely to health education and the care of children. Training of dentists and dental hygienists in public health, the operation of children's preventive and treatment clinics, and health education are being undertaken in all provinces. Water fluoridation projects involving an over-all total of more than a million people are in operation in seven provinces. Three provinces—Alberta, Manitoba and Nova Scotia—are setting up, in conjunction with their dental schools, special courses for dental hygienists. In all ten provinces free clinical care is provided for children in remote rural areas by the use of mobile units. One province uses two railway-coach dental clinics to serve remote areas. A successful locally sponsored plan in which the cost of dental services for children is shared by the local community and the provincial health department is in operation in more than 80 communities in British Columbia; the sponsoring group decides whether registration for treatment may be free or on the payment of a nominal sum.

*Nutrition.*—Services include technical guidance, education, consultation and research. In some provinces, school lunch programs are also sponsored and dietary supplements distributed. Five provinces have special nutrition divisions; elsewhere, nutritionists serve in other divisions of the health department.

*Health Education.*—In most provinces experience has demonstrated the need for a professional full-time 'health educator' as a member of the public health team. Nine provinces have separate divisions or units to co-ordinate the dissemination of health information through all available media.

*Public Health Laboratories.*—The public health laboratory, an essential facility in the protection of community health and the control of infectious diseases, was one of the earliest provincial services developed to assist local public health departments. Work performed includes bacteriological examination of water, milk and food samples, the examination of specimens for diagnosis of communicable disease, and special pathological services. Each province maintains a central public health laboratory and most provinces have established additional branch laboratories. Recent trends in some provinces include efforts to co-ordinate public health and hospital laboratory services, special measures to bring laboratory facilities to rural areas, and devices to reduce the direct cost of clinical laboratory procedures to the individual.