

Medical Staff and Training Programs.—Many of the professional staffs of active treatment hospitals are employed on a part-time basis; in the main they are recommended for appointment by the Deans of Medicine of the universities with which the hospitals are affiliated. Most members of the medical staff are engaged in teaching and private practice, and hold appointments on the medical faculties of the various universities.

In its active treatment institutions, the Department maintains medical teaching programs which are considered essential to attract highly qualified professional men and thus ensure the highest quality of medical care. All active treatment hospitals have been approved by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for postgraduate teaching in medicine and surgery, and the majority are approved also for advanced postgraduate training in the various specialties. An intern-resident program is in effect and, at the end of 1961, 282 residents and interns were in training, together with 141 interns in occupational therapy, physiotherapy, psychology, laboratory, and medical social services.

During 1961, 91 departmental employees attended courses, assisted fully or partly by the research and education vote. In addition, nursing assistants were trained at a school located at Camp Hill Hospital in Halifax. This school has an annual capacity of 70 graduates who are offered employment in departmental hospitals across the country.

Medical Research.—During 1961, there were 85 projects in progress under the Clinical Research Program. The program is varied but in the main deals with conditions affecting aging, which the Department is in a special position to investigate. Self-contained Clinical Investigation Units have been set up in active treatment hospitals located at Montreal, Toronto, London, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Hospital Facilities.—Treatment is provided in 11 active treatment hospitals located at Halifax, N.S., Saint John, N.B., Quebec City, Montreal and Ste. Anne de Bellevue in Quebec, Toronto and London in Ontario, Winnipeg, Man., Calgary, Alta., and Vancouver and Victoria, B.C.; also in two convalescent centres and two homes maintained for the provision of domiciliary care. The rated capacity of these institutions at Dec. 31, 1961 was 8,918 beds. An additional 662 beds were available in veterans pavilions situated at Ottawa, Regina and Edmonton. Pavilions are owned by the Department but are operated by the parent hospital, and medical staff is provided by the Department.

Progress continues to be made toward the provision of a nation-wide chain of modern fire-resistant institutions through replacement of obsolete accommodation. In October 1944, the Department of Pensions and National Health was reorganized and became the Department of National Health and Welfare and the Department of Veterans Affairs. At that time under the Pensions Branch of the old Department there were the following hospitals: *Camp Hill* at Halifax, N.S.; *Lancaster* at Saint John, N.B.; *Savard Park* at Quebec City and *Ste. Anne's* at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.; *Christie Street* at Toronto and *Westminster* at London, Ont.; *Deer Lodge* at Winnipeg, Man.; *Colonel Belcher* at Calgary, Alta.; and *Shaughnessy* at Vancouver, B.C. Many of these institutions were either older buildings that had been remodelled or buildings of frame construction built toward the end of or immediately after World War I. In the intervening years they had become obsolescent in design and, being constructed of less permanent materials, had deteriorated and required considerable maintenance.

To meet the anticipated needs for World War II veterans and to improve the standard of hospital accommodation under the control of the Department, a program of work was initiated. In addition, because of immediate requirements, some temporary accommodation was constructed and existing buildings in various parts of the country were taken over and adapted to hospital use. The maximum number of beds provided was during the year 1946-47 when there was a total of 13,544 in 48 institutions. Since that time there has been a steady decline in the number of institutions operated and the number of available beds.