

The Medical Rehabilitation Grant.—Many programs for the rehabilitation of disabled persons have been developed in Canada and a number of these have received federal aid. The programs have been mainly concerned with specific groups and not until the formation, under Federal Government auspices, of the National Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation in 1951, were attempts made to formulate comprehensive plans for rehabilitation. As a major means of closing gaps in existing services, the Committee recommended a federal grant to assist provincial and voluntary programs. The *Medical Rehabilitation Grant* was established to help achieve this end. It is anticipated that the projects under the grant will be of three major types:

(1) For the professional training of rehabilitation workers, including physicians, psychiatrists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers, nurses, remedial gymnasts and rehabilitation officers.

(2) For rehabilitation equipment, including such items as electrotherapy apparatus, Hubbard baths, whirlpool baths, remedial gymnastic apparatus and other special equipment used to correct disabilities.

(3) For rehabilitation health services, including the conducting of case-finding surveys, the employment of necessary professional staff for hospitals and rehabilitation centres, the setting-up of units where crippled persons can get help with their appliances and the establishing of other specialized clinics and units essential in a well-balanced program for the disabled.

Laboratory and Radiological Services Grant.—Diagnostic facilities and services, which are of increasing importance in modern medical practice, have been rapidly expanded in recent years, often with the help of various of the national health grants. While such services and facilities are at a high level in a number of centres, many Canadian communities require assistance towards their establishment or improvement. The *Laboratory and Radiological Services Grant* is designed to provide such assistance through the training of radiologists and other personnel, the extension of laboratory facilities, the provision of diagnostic equipment and the maintenance of laboratory and radiological services.

Financial Extent of the New Grants.—The establishment of the new grants involves a federal financial commitment of \$42,000,000 over a period of five years. The total commitment of the whole National Health Grant Program is not, however, increased by all of this amount. All expenditures under the Health Survey Grant were made in the first five-year period and that grant is non-recurring. A more significant saving is achieved through reducing, by one-half, the Hospital Construction Grant, a reduction made possible by the high rate of construction between 1948 and 1953. After provision is made for completing projects approved during the first five-year period, it is proposed to make \$6,850,000 available annually for new construction.

The three new grants differ in the amounts they make available to the provinces and in the conditions governing projects carried out under them. As a common feature, however, each of the grants increases in amount following the first year of its operation; the *Medical Rehabilitation Grant* doubles the second year, the *Child and Maternal Health Grant* doubles at the beginning of the second and third years, and increases in the *Laboratory and Radiological Services Grant* occur annually for five years. The amounts available over the period are given in Table 2.