

grants during the five-year period the construction was completed, or approved, of 46,000 beds, nearly 6,000 bassinets, approximately 5,700 nurses' beds and space in community health centres and combined laboratories exceeding 2,600 bed equivalents. Hospital facilities have been established for the first time in 144 communities across Canada.

Federal funds under the various grants have made possible the training of about 5,000 health workers. By subsidizing provincially sponsored courses and educational facilities in universities, hospitals and other training centres and by providing living allowances, book and travel allowances and tuition fees to individual students, the health grants have helped to reduce the deficiencies in trained personnel that have retarded all aspects of Canadian health progress. Training has been authorized and supported under nearly all of the grants and the large number of categories of persons trained reflects the broad scope of the programs receiving grant aid. Nurses of various types have constituted the largest single group receiving training, followed by physicians, sanitation personnel and social workers. A large number of training projects have related to hospital administration and to the professional and technical skills required in modern hospital practice. Through funds provided for training and for the extension of services, about 4,600 health workers have been employed on provincial and local staffs.

General public health services have been greatly extended. The organization of local health units has been assisted by the grants and, owing to the rapid increase of the past five years, health-unit services are available in areas covering 60 p.c. of the Canadian population. Provincial and municipal health facilities and services have been strengthened by the purchase of additional technical equipment and the extension of both preventive and treatment services.

The grants have enabled the provinces to intensify their campaigns against the major health hazards. Mental health services have been notably extended. During the five years of the health grants, there has been an increase from 17 to 77 in the number of mental health clinics in operation and a proportionate increase has taken place in measures for the prevention, diagnosis and early treatment of mental illness. Tuberculosis control has presented a particularly encouraging trend. Vigorous case-finding programs and the use of new drugs have served to reinforce an established trend and, in the period under review, have reduced the death rate from this disease by almost one-half. Cancer programs, supported by federal, provincial and voluntary funds, have also grown at a rapid rate and have provided diagnostic or combined diagnostic and treatment services to more than 100,000 persons. Provincial venereal disease control programs, financed jointly by the Federal and provincial governments, have been able to utilize modern advances in treatment and thereby to achieve new success in reducing the incidence of the disease; the decline between 1948 and 1953 was almost 50 p.c. Programs to alleviate crippling conditions in children, to arrest and cure cases of arthritis and rheumatism and to meet the challenge of other diseases have developed as the additional staff and facilities have been made available through the grants.

There has been a significant increase in health research in Canada because of the additional federal funds provided. Projects approved under the Public Health Research Grant and a number of other grants have covered a wide range of health areas including public health administration, sanitation, industrial hygiene, nutrition, geriatrics, clinical medicine and pathology. A considerable number of