

services are provided to medically indigent rural residents. Radium and X-ray treatments are available without charge to rural residents and at a nominal charge to residents of Greater Winnipeg.

Laboratory services are provided through provincial laboratories at Winnipeg and Brandon. In addition, the Department distributes, to doctors, hospitals and government agencies, penicillin and other drugs for the treatment of venereal disease, insulin and other biologicals for indigents and antibiotics for tubercular patients.

The Provincial Government contributes a grant of one dollar per diem to hospitals and sanatoria for all public-ward patients and lump-sum grants to teaching hospitals.

Public assistance recipients in Manitoba are eligible for limited medical, dental and optical care, on a means-test basis, with the major share of the cost of services assumed by the responsible municipality. Hospital care is provided on a similar basis, municipalities making a per diem payment for persons with local residence, in addition to the provincial per diem grants. The Province assumes the cost of medical and hospital care provided to some indigents who are unable to establish local residence.

Saskatchewan.—The Saskatchewan Department of Public Health has five main Branches: Regional and Preventive Health Services, Medical and Hospital Services, Psychiatric Services, Research and Statistics, and Administrative Services. The Health Services Planning Commission functions as an advisory and planning agency on major policy and administrative matters in the Department.

The Regional and Preventive Health Services Branch includes Divisions of Communicable Disease Control, Child Health, Venereal Disease Control, Nursing Services, Dental Health, Nutrition and Sanitation. These Divisions organize province-wide programs and provide consultative services to local health personnel. The Communicable Disease Control Division distributes free vaccines and sera, and supervises immunization programs. Four clinics for diagnosis and treatment are maintained by the Venereal Disease Control Division. Field services for venereal disease, tuberculosis, mental health and other public health programs are supplied by the Nursing Services Division. Public health laboratory services and the free distribution of certain drugs and biologicals are carried out by the Provincial Laboratories.

The Regional Health Services Branch is also responsible for the organization of health regions which are administered by locally elected health boards although staff is appointed and financial assistance is provided by the Province. Eight of the proposed regions are currently in operation. In addition to the general public health services provided in all regions, the Swift Current Health Region has a prepaid medical-care plan including general practitioner, specialist and diagnostic care for all residents, and limited dental services for children. The plan is financed by personal and property taxes with some Provincial Government contributions. Dental health programs for children have been launched in two other regions.

The Medical and Hospital Services Branch is responsible for the operation of the Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan, administers the program of medical services to public assistance recipients, supervises the operations of the municipal doctor programs and the Air Ambulance Service, and administers a rehabilitation program for crippled children and poliomyelitis patients through the Physical