

Affairs are carrying out health research on their own account. To mention only a few examples, important studies are constantly underway in connection with Federal health responsibilities for the health of Indians and Eskimos, public health engineering and the development of improved standards for foods and drugs.

The Laboratory of Hygiene of the Department of National Health and Welfare is active in the fields of virology, bacteriology and immunology. Many of these studies, such as the immunization of children, are carried out in close collaboration with universities and other outside agencies such as the Connaught Medical Research Laboratories in Toronto and the Institute of Microbiology and Hygiene at the University of Montreal. Useful studies are also undertaken by the Department's own research divisions on socio-economic aspects of health care.

In 1950 the Department of Veterans Affairs organized a programme of clinical research in its hospitals and clinics across the country. In the past two years a good deal of the budget has been devoted to ACTH and Cortisone research. This year, \$350,000 has been set aside for various research projects, including advanced studies in arteriosclerosis.

In addition to providing direct financial support for research activity and carrying on a certain amount of research work on its own account, the Federal Government has an important role as a co-ordinating agency. All Federal grants for research have been developed to meet evident need for them and the greatest care has been taken to avoid duplication of effort and to make the best use of existing facilities. The general approach of Federal fund-granting agencies in this field is to encourage "supported" rather than "directed" research. In other words, the intention is to give maximum Federal support with minimum government interference.

In all this worthwhile activity, the Federal Government works in friendly collaboration with the provincial governments. Canadian universities, too, make their outstanding contribution to research activity. They provide opportunities for independent study, maintain the needed laboratory facilities and keep alive the research instinct through the inspiration of their teaching.

The Federal Government also stimulates research by helping to co-ordinate the efforts of the various voluntary agencies interested in particular health problems. For example, during 1947, as Minister of National Health and Welfare, I presided over national conferences that led to the formation of the National Cancer Institute and the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society. In addition to their other important activities, these two voluntary groups are supporting large-scale research programmes.

#### Recent Progress In Health Research

Because of the co-ordinated health efforts of government and voluntary agencies, the past century has witnessed unprecedented medical discoveries. In our own time many new drugs, improved surgical techniques and improved therapies have been discovered. Because of the unprecedented advance of medical science in Canada during the thirty years since Banting and Best discovered the use of insulin, many thousands who would have been condemned,