

(a) Training Research Workers

To overcome Canada's still serious shortage of trained research workers, an increasing proportion of the Professional Training Grant and other grants is being used. Of the 3,600 health workers already given training under the Federal grants, an increasing number are going into research work.

In this connection, it is most encouraging to note the changing status of research in our Canadian universities. In recent years many of our larger institutions have established full-scale medical research departments under the direction of outstanding scientists like Collip, Best, Selyé, Doupe and Dugal.

(b) Surveying Research Needs

In the early stages of the National Health Programme, most health problems investigated were related to laboratory and hospital work. But as the Programme gained momentum, there has been a significant change in the character of the projects submitted. For example, a high proportion of the monies available this year under the Public Health Research Grant will be allocated to field surveys or epidemiological studies.

In other words, our health investigators are not satisfied today with tackling individual problems in a haphazard manner. They want to know our exact health needs and their relative priority. The ten provincial health surveys -- of which several have been made public in recent weeks -- were undertaken as a part of the National Health Programme and financed by Federal grants totalling \$550,000 thus far. These exhaustive studies of the health needs of each province represent, in effect, a thorough stocktaking of Canada's public health resources. Through the surveys, each province has vastly increased its knowledge of its medical and public health needs.

The National Sickness Survey, the results of which are now being analyzed and tabulated, will also provide a great body of useful information for research workers. This research project -- the most comprehensive study of its kind ever undertaken -- is a co-operative venture of the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Bureau of Statistics and all the provincial governments. The Federal Government has already spent more than \$300,000 on this survey, which will indicate the predominant factors in present-day family morbidity and thus give positive directions for future research efforts.

The Defence Research Board

During the last war, Canadian medical scientists, working under the co-ordinated direction of the Armed Forces and the National Research Council, devoted all their efforts to the solution of the critical medical problems of modern warfare. Their contribution, in terms of lives saved and persons restored to useful activity, cannot be measured, but it will not soon be forgotten. The many advances in surgery and in the use of new drugs and techniques are now finding application in peacetime medical practice.