

of admissions to mental hospitals. The results of treatment at Ponoka have been surprisingly good.

Alberta is the first Province in Canada to organize a Visiting Committee to its mental hospitals. This Committee has been of great service in stimulating public confidence and in co-operating with hospital officials to bring about improvements.

Saskatchewan

This Province has two modern mental hospitals at North Battleford and Weyburne. The latter institution, built several years ago, cost two and a half million dollars. The North Battleford hospital is unique in Canada in connection with its arrangements for occupational therapy. All of its 800 patients, with the exception of a very few who are bedridden or acutely ill, are engaged in useful work. If one visits the hospital in the afternoon, the wards will all be found empty and the patients will be discovered in the work-shops or in cultivating the 2500 acres of hospital property. Probably in no other mental hospital in the world will occupational therapy be found to be practised to such an extent. The Superintendent is pleased with the therapeutic results he is achieving. He finds that with work the patients are happier, that they sleep better and that their recovery rate is faster.

The Minister of Health of Saskatchewan is profoundly interested in mental hygiene. It is possible that in co-operation with the National Committee an experiment will be carried out in the Province in the community treatment of the insane - an experiment that has been markedly successful in Europe. The advantages of community treatment consist in the reduction of per capita costs and better therapeutic results.

Saskatchewan like other Provinces is facing the problem of mental deficiency. The time has arrived when arrangements must be made for