

Accordingly, the average net income from professional practice increased at a slightly faster rate than average gross earnings, the average annual increase being 7.0 per cent and the cumulative percentage rise, 71.7 per cent. The average net professional earnings of doctors were \$12,852 in 1957, and \$22,064 in 1965.

REASONS FOR RISE

Many factors have contributed to the rise of physicians' earnings. Among these have been increases in the total demand for physicians' services, stimulated partly by the growth of medical insurance arrangements that have tended to remove financial disincentives to the seeking of medical treatment. Probably, the volume of service given by each doctor has increased through longer hours of work and more effective use of time, equipment and auxiliary personnel. Improved collections of fees is an additional factor, which reflects the upward trend in general affluence and the assurance of payment under medical insurance arrangements; and fees have been moving up, along with the general rise in prices of other services purchased by consumers.

SASKATCHEWAN EXAMPLE

Following the introduction of the public medical care insurance plan in Saskatchewan on July 1, 1962, the average gross professional earnings of physicians in the province were \$35,657, 32 percent more than in 1961 the last full year before the programme; average net earnings of \$21,625 were 37 percent above the 1961 level. The fee schedule remained practically unchanged during this period, with payment by the provincial plan at 85 per cent of the listed fees. But the advent of the programme brought about more careful use of the fee schedule, certainly of collection, higher utilization of services, and longer hours of work. Doctors' earnings would have increased somewhat without the medical care insurance programme, and some income in 1963 represented delayed payments for services rendered in 1962. Also, the number of doctors was reduced temporarily. Nevertheless, the evidence indicates that the Saskatchewan medical-care insurance plan had a significant initial impact on physicians' earnings.

* * * *

NEW ALBERTA MUSEUM

The official opening of the Provincial Museum and Archives in Edmonton, Alberta's project under the Confederation Memorial Grants Programme, will be held in December.

The Museum and Archives is located on the site of the former Government House, which was selected for its convenience to public transportation, its commanding view of the North Saskatchewan River valley and its natural surroundings. The site also allows for extensive future expansion of both museum and archives, and has the additional value of being of historical interest itself. The old Government House mansion has been maintained as part of the complex, as it is physically sound and is one of a few dignified older pieces of architecture in Alberta.

Under the Confederation Memorial Grants Programme, the federal Centennial Commission is contributing \$2.5 million to each province (which must be matched by the province) for the construction of buildings for cultural purposes, to be located, whenever possible, in the provincial capital.

The aim of the Museum is to establish a free public collection to portray and preserve the history of Alberta and provide related educational services; the Archives will preserve Alberta historical documentary materials. The staff of the Museum and Archives Branch of the Department of the Provincial Secretary have been at work for more than two years, assembling specimens, artifacts and documents, cataloguing and preparing them for display in the new building.

Besides the expected displays featuring Indian artifacts, exploration, fur trade, settlement and agriculture, the Museum will also show several aspects of early industry and commerce.

FUTURE DISPLAYS

Planning for future displays includes the portrayal of daily life in the home and the community. A special room will highlight the special features of the many ethnic groups in the province. Religious life, creative activities, prominent people, communities, regions, military organizations and firearms will be subjects for display.

Extensive exhibits of Alberta's history in communications, transportation, government, politics and organizations have also been planned.

* * * *

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF STUDENTS

There is a slightly larger number of students in Canadian schools and universities this year than was expected a year ago, mainly because of a higher level of immigration.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates that 21,229 schools are in operation, with a full-time enrolment of 4,109,400 pupils in elementary schools, 1,322,300 students in secondary schools, 23,400 students in teachers' colleges, 42,600 students in technical institutes and community colleges, and 268,000 in universities.

Estimates show also that there are 23,870 students enrolled in nursing-diploma courses at hospital schools; 17,630 students in private trade schools; 22,530 students in private business colleges; 2,960 pupils in schools for the deaf; and 770 pupils in schools for the blind.

Ontario has the largest enrolment - estimated to exceed two million students for the first time in any province. The enrolment for Ontario represents 79.1 per cent of the 5-24 population, compared to 77.7 per cent in British Columbia, the province with the second-highest ratio. The lowest-enrolment ratios for the 5-24 population are estimated for New Brunswick with 65.6 per cent and Newfoundland with 66.0 per cent.

The total expenditure for formal education in 1967 is estimated at over \$4.5 billion.