

Supply—Health and Welfare

health unit in Toronto, the one at Ottawa University here and the one in Saskatchewan. Those are the main ones.

Mr. Fulton: How does that amount compare with what was spent in previous years?

Mr. Martin: It is about \$100,000 more than the previous year.

Mr. Fulton: And the total amount for mental health, as the minister told me earlier, is about \$7½ million.

Mr. Martin: Yes. It is the third largest grant.

Mr. Fulton: How is that divided?

Mr. Martin: It is divided among the provinces on a per capita basis, and it is non-matching.

Item agreed to.

267. Health league of Canada, \$10,000.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, I have in my hand—

Mr. Martin: I have that matter under consideration.

Mr. Herridge: Does the minister know what matter it is?

Mr. Martin: The health league. I have that matter under consideration.

Mr. Herridge: I do not think that is quite the aspect I want to mention. Our group are very pleased to support the vote for \$10,000, and I am going to make a suggestion. I think the minister's department could possibly substantially assist the health league and at the same time save money by adopting this suggestion. I have in my hand a copy of an excellent periodical published at various times by the health league known as "Health For You and Your Family". It is very readable material. At the same time I have an official publication published by the Department of National Health and Welfare entitled "Canada's Health and Welfare." I should like to ask the minister this question. Would it be possible to assist the health league and at the same time save the department money by the department taking four pages in the health league magazine instead of putting out a separate publication?

Mr. Martin: I would not agree with that, and I am sure the hon. member for Kindsley would not agree. We write a lot of the articles in both.

Mr. Herridge: Could the minister say why he would not agree?

Mr. Martin: The departmental magazine is perhaps the most important general document of its kind. It goes to all doctors and health

workers and has a much bigger circulation. The two have different purposes.

Item agreed to.

268. Canadian public health association, \$5,000.

Mr. Knight: I cannot find an item under which to raise this matter but the Minister of Finance gave me the idea of bringing it up now because he said he was listening. I refer to certain drugs, notably insulin and drugs of that prescription, that are a constant expense to certain people. The point I am concerned about is the deductibility from income for tax purposes of the cost of these particular drugs. My view of the minister is obstructed charmingly and I cannot see him, but if I can get his eye I should like to ask the minister what are the particular drugs that his department recommends to the Minister of Finance as being deductible for income tax purposes?

Mr. Martin: I am sorry but I have not the full list. There is quite a list. The Minister of Finance and I are in constant consultation. We get along on that matter as well as we do on other things, which means that we get along very well.

Mr. Knight: It is certainly not confined to insulin?

Mr. Martin: No; cortisone, Salk vaccine, ACTH, injectable liver extract or vitamin B-12, as well as insulin.

Mr. Knight: My reason for asking is that I have a particular case in my constituency involving a young lady who tells me that her monthly expense for a completely indispensable drug is some \$32. She is a person in a position that does not pay very much money. I took up the matter at one time with the Minister of Finance. Of course he will have forgotten it, but I wrote him about it. However, I did not have any success in that particular case. Perhaps the Minister of National Health and Welfare might recommend to his colleague that one or two other drugs should be added to the list.

Mr. Trainor: On what basis is the list compiled?

Mr. Martin: Essentiality, the cost involved and the question whether or not institutions like Connaught are engaged in the production.

Item agreed to.

Family allowances and old age security—

280. Administration, \$2,743,441.

Mr. Hansell: Mr. Chairman, I think we have made some progress in the last minute. We come now to item 280 covering the administration of family allowance and old age