

five weeks at best. This "passive immunization" has not in the past proved entirely satisfactory for the control of other infectious diseases and will almost certainly be replaced when a more lasting immunizing agent for polio is developed. The final answer to the control of polio will be found in the protection of a vaccine that will confer a lasting immunity.

Important progress has already been made in this direction and federal aid is now being given to research studies at the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children and the School of Hygiene at the University of Montreal. The Toronto research, which is being directed by Dr. A. J. Rhodes, has been undertaken to investigate more thoroughly than has previously been possible the various strains of the polio virus in Canada and to find out which of the three common types cause polio epidemics in this country.

This project is being correlated with work on the development of a polio vaccine which Dr. Rhodes is carrying forward at the Connaught Laboratories. In this connection, it was recently announced that progress had been made in producing polio virus in quantity -- a necessary and important step in the production of any polio vaccine. Naturally, we all look forward to the day when an effective vaccine will be available to prevent the ravages of this crippling and killing disease.

Extending the Frontiers of Public Health

The story of gamma globulin is a dramatic illustration of the exciting developments that are now taking place in the entire field of public health. All across Canada, new services are being developed and new facilities are being established to assist public health workers in combatting disease and extending the frontiers of life.

For many years this country has enjoyed a high standard of public health. Credit for the notable advances of the past half century must be shared by our health professions, our voluntary health agencies and the health departments of our provincial and local governments. Five years ago, to help fill certain evident gaps in existing public health services, the Federal Government launched a vast new programme of grants-in-aid to the provinces. Since that time, the National Health Programme has given a decided stimulus to health action in Canada, not by usurping or duplicating provincial and local services but by giving them needed financial support.

Since 1948, under the stimulus of the National Health Programme, more has been done by Canada's senior governments to advance the cause of public health than in any comparable period in our history. While expanded government support has been of unquestioned value, we must never lose sight of the fact that the true effectiveness of all our public health programmes must ultimately depend on the devotion and effort of the physicians, nurses, and other professional staff who make up Canada's dedicated army of public health workers.

This spring, new possibilities for progress were opened up with the announcement of three new grants for Child and Maternal Health, Medical Rehabilitation, and Laboratory and Radiological Services under which \$42,000,000