Unitarian Committee of America were sent to Austria in July 1947, and to Finland and Poland in July and August 1948, to lecture and demonstrate the latest techniques in particular branches of medicine and surgery.

A WHO expert was sent to the Middle East in September 1948 to survey the health conditions among the Palestine refugees.

During the period from July 1, 1947, to September 21, 1948, the Organization supplied medical literature and periodicals to Austria, Byelorussian S.S.R., China, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Ukrainian S.S.R. and Yugoslavia.

It provided fellowships to 430 doctors and other health personnel from the following countries for specialized training and refresher courses in various fields of medicine: Austria, China, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Korea, Philippines, Poland and Yugoslavia. Recipients of these fellowships were placed for training in the United States and Canada, the United Kingdom and other countries of Western Europe and in the U.S.S.R. All fellows must agree to return to their own countries to utilize the knowledge they have acquired through this fellowship program. As of September 21, 1948, 210 had completed their studies and 220 were still studying or awaiting transportation. WHO prepared a fellowship manual based on actual experience in the organization and rehabilitation of public-health and medical education in the war-devastated countries.

On the basis of a questionnaire on technical assistance sent to its Member countries, 30 Members, as of September 1948, had requested advisory and demonstration services; 30 had requested WHO fellowships to train medical and public health personnel in modern techniques; and 22 had requested medical literature, supplies and equipment.

### 7. Publications

In addition to the epidemiological publications mentioned above, the Organization issues several publications designed to place at the disposal of public health administrations, and the medical and related professions, technical information on current problems and on the development of the activities of the Organization and its expert committees. These include the Official Records of the World Health Organization, containing minutes of meetings and corresponding documents and reports; the Bulletin of the World Health Organization, the chief scientific publication of WHO, which has been published since January 1948, replacing the Bulletin mensuel of the Office international d’hygiène publique and the Bulletin of the Health Organization of the League of Nations; the International Digest of Health Legislation, containing reproductions, translations or extracts from the more important health legislation throughout the world; and the Chronicle of the World Health Organization, providing monthly information on the current activities of the Organization.

Specialized monographs are also published from time to time. A monograph on cancer treatment statistics and a monograph on modern methods of treatment of venereal diseases, as well as an international list of treatment centres for venereal diseases, were as of September 1948 being prepared for publication by WHO.

### 8. Other Activities

#### a. BIOLOGICAL STANDARDIZATION

The Organization continued its study and experimental research aimed at establishing international standards for a large number of biologicals, including various blood groups and the RH factor, cholera vaccine, whooping cough vaccine, scarlet fever antitoxin, diphtheria and tetanus toxoids, purified tuberculin and BCG.

It also considered replacing the existing standards for certain substances, including digitalis and vitamins A and D, with new standards which would result in purer preparations. Numerous laboratories in Europe, America and India collaborate in conducting the necessary research on these substances, and two laboratories, the State Serum Institute at Copenhagen and the laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Hampstead (London), distribute preparations of standardized biologicals to centres in various countries for storage and redistribution within each country.

#### b. UNIFICATION OF PHARMACOPOEIAS

In October 1947 an expert committee began working toward the establishment of a unified system of nomenclature of drugs, so as to provide that the same name should represent in all countries a preparation of the same strength and composition. The Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias reviewed and approved monographs on important drugs previously adopted by the League of Nations and adopted a large number