senting the National Institute of Mental Health in a World Health

Organization Committee on mental retardation.

(h and i) One staff member is a specialist in occupational mental health and consults with business enterprises on their mental health services for employees. A few grants have been made to labor unions in relation to their health programs.

### 8. Laws and regulations

(42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.)

Mental health project grants: Section 303, Public Health Service Act; Health Amendments Act of 1956, Public Law 911; DHEW Appropriations Acts, fiscal years 1964, 1965, 1966.

Professional and technical assistance: Section 301, Public Health

Service Act.

Also see general answer to this question at the end of the NIH section.

### PART II. DATA BEARING ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND IMPACTS OF THE PROGRAM

#### 9. Economic effects

Mental illness is one of the most costly health problems faced by

the Nation. It constitutes an enormous drain on the Nation's resources and energies, both economic and noneconomic.

Mental illness cost the Nation about \$3.5 billion in 1962. Direct costs for the care and treatment of the mentally ill were over \$1.8 billion, indirect costs (losses in salaries and wages, etc.) \$1 billion, and other costs (research and training, pensions and compensation) \$\% \text{billion}. All of these costs increased sharply in recent years. For example, direct costs increased 63 percent between 1956 and 1962. These estimates by the Blue Cross Association are described as a substantial understatement of the total economic cost.

## 10. Economic classification of program expenditures. (See table 8 at the end of the NIH section.)

Included in report on research grants prepared by the National Institutes of Health and discussed later.

# MENTAL HEALTH GRANT-IN-AID PROGRAM

(State Control Programs)

#### PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

# 1. Objectives

The purpose of this grant is to assist the States in establishing, maintaining, and expanding community mental health services in an effort to improve the mental health of the people of the United States and to prevent and curtail the need for hospital care of the mentally ill.

## 2. Operation

The funds appropriated annually for the program are allotted among the States by a formula which, as provided by law, takes into consideration the population, financial need, and extent of the mental health problem in the various States. By administrative