

BILL'S BOYS



by Bill Thomas

the Provincial Government contributed \$170.5 million in support of the plan, plus some \$334 million for mental and tuberculosis care, and for special and capital hospital grants, to a total of \$510.5 million.

Government's contribution will also keep pace with rising plan costs. The new premiums effective with regular advance payments for the benefit month of July, 1968, are:

BASIC STANDARD WARD INSURANCE
Single (no eligible dependants) - - - - - \$ 5.50 a month
Family (one or more eligible dependants) - - - \$11.00 a month

The above new rates will be payable on all regular group and pay-direct billings due in April, 1968, to cover the benefit month(s) beginning with July, 1968.

NEW BENEFITS

Consistent with its policy through the years of adding wherever possible to the benefits of Ontario Hospital

Insurance, the following new benefits will be available to insured persons *on* and *after* July 1, 1968.

OUT-PATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES

Coverage for hospital out-patient services prescribed by a physician when associated with necessary medical treatment—but *not* drugs taken home, or diagnostic x-ray examinations or laboratory tests which are listed as benefits of the Ontario Medical Services Insurance Plan (OMSIP). Such x-rays and laboratory tests, however, will continue to be covered under present "emergency" benefits

and in follow-up treatment of fractures. These added benefits will include the use of a substantial list of care facilities at hospitals which are necessary to modern medical care and will close the gap between present insured services and those services normally covered by OMSIP.

ESSENTIAL AMBULANCE SERVICE

Also, benefits will be provided for ambulance service which is essential for the transportation of a patient. The patient will be required to pay a small portion of the cost

to the ambulance operator at the time the service is provided. Details of the benefit will be announced at a later date.

NOTE: The above summary is for your convenience only. For detailed information please refer to the Provincial and Federal acts and regulations regarding these matters, or write to the address below.

HEALTH INSURANCE REGISTRATION BOARD*
2195 YONGE STREET, TORONTO 7, ONTARIO.

*H.I.R.B.—The Health Insurance Registration Board set up by the Province to act as an agency for both Ontario Hospital Insurance and OMSIP.

The Health Insurance Registration Board is the central registration office handling enrollment, billing, and premium collection, and answering inquiries about the Ontario Government medical health insurance plans.