

provincial, county, and municipal houses of refuge; children's aid societies; juvenile immigration societies; and day nurseries. In recent years, there has been a decided trend from institutional to foster care for children, and, even where institutional care is given, the ultimate objective of observation and treatment is to train the children for life in the community.

Of the 459 institutions operating on June 1, 1936, 8.1 p.c. were under provincial control, 19.0 p.c. under county auspices, 5.0 p.c. under municipal or city control, 19.2 p.c. under lay corporations or private agencies, 2.6 p.c. under fraternal organizations, and 45.4 p.c. under religious organizations. On June 1, 1936, there were under care in all institutions 48,094 persons, of whom 14,681 were adults and 33,413 were children. Of the children under care, 17,058 or 51 p.c. were receiving care outside institutions under the control of public welfare organizations. The latest general summary of statistics for such institutions, by provinces, is for 1936 and appears at pp. 1045-1046 of the 1939 Year Book.

Subsection 4.—Corrective and Reformatory Institutions.

On June 1, 1936, there were 38 reformatory and corrective institutions in Canada with a total inmate population of 3,722, of which number 3,004 were males and 718 were females. Of the total number of institutions, 24 were for males and 14 for females. Detailed statistics of crime and delinquency (which are presented on an annual basis) as distinct from these institutional statistics are shown in Chapter XXVII.

Section 3.—The Victorian Order of Nurses.

The Victorian Order of Nurses, established in 1897, is a national nursing organization having as its object the care of the sick in their own homes on a visit basis regardless of race, creed, or economic status.

The primary function of the Victorian Order is bedside nursing and teaching of health in the homes visited. Three types of care are given by the nurses, viz., maternal and infant welfare, general nursing, and health education. During 1939, the Order had 350 nurses in the field and 89 branches distributed as follows: Nova Scotia, 15; New Brunswick, 6; Quebec, 5; Ontario, 49; Manitoba, 1; Saskatchewan, 3; Alberta, 2; and British Columbia, 8. During 1939, 741,134 visits were made to 85,249 patients, which was an increase in the work as a whole. The average number of visits per case was 8.7. Of the total visits made, 59 p.c. were free, while fully paid visits constituted 25 p.c. (of which 16 p.c. were insurance) and partly paid visits 16 p.c. Maternal and infant welfare cases constituted 52.4 p.c. of the total visits made.

The maternal death rate per 1,000 living births attended by Victorian Order nurses for the years 1933-38 inclusive, was 2.1.

Section 4.—The Canadian Red Cross Society.*

Closely allied with the Dominion and Provincial Governments, both in the prosecution of the War and in the promotion of the health of the people, is the Canadian Red Cross Society. Founded in 1896, its purposes are to furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war, and, in time of peace, to carry on and assist in work for the improvement of health, the prevention of disease, and the mitigation of suffering.

* Revised by W. S. Caldwell, M.D., Assistant Director of the Ontario Division, the Canadian Red Cross Society, Toronto.