

being made in this field by the Departments of Child Welfare of the Provincial Governments, the Children's Aid Societies, Juvenile Immigration Societies and Day Nurseries. Even to-day, although government inspection is now universal, much of this work is carried on by other than official agencies. Of the 468 institutions that reported at the census of 1941, 76 are controlled by provincial and county governments, 61 by municipalities, 104 are under private auspices and 227 are under religious and fraternal organizations.

The field of welfare work is a very wide one and includes the work of many organizations. The Canadian Welfare Council gives national direction to, and co-ordinates the work of, the local welfare agencies; and specialized organizations such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, and Canadian Federation of the Blind occupy a somewhat similar role in their particular fields. The various Community Chest organizations and service clubs assist welfare work by helping to finance local organizations, and the great work of the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Catholic Youth Organization and the Young Men's Hebrew Association, the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and similar youth organizations in what may be described as preventive, rather than curative, work cannot be overlooked. Day nurseries have proved of increased value under war-time conditions, enabling many mothers to play their part in increasing Canada's output of war material. Most of the activities of these organizations are not susceptible to statistical measurement. In the case of the Canadian Red Cross, the Victorian Order of Nurses, and the St. John Ambulance Association, their fields of effort are more closely related to public health and are therefore treated in Chapter XXVII.

An outline of the welfare work being carried on by each of the Provincial Governments and by the Dominion Government follows. Details and statistics under each heading are later presented.

OUTLINES OF WELFARE WORK AT PRESENT BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE DOMINION AND EACH OF THE PROVINCES

The Dominion

As pointed out at p. 662 general relief and public welfare in Canada remained with the provinces until relatively recent times.

The earliest entry of the central government into the sphere of welfare work was coincident with the earliest days of British rule, the welfare of the Indian inhabitants as accepted wards of the Government having been at first the concern of the military authorities and, after 1845, of the central civil government. Statistics regarding the administration of Indian and Eskimo affairs are given in the Miscellaneous Administration Chapter of this volume. The Dominion Government extended its responsibilities in this field after the First World War, when it was found necessary to supplement the earlier schemes of re-settlement, limited to land grants or scrip in lieu thereof, by the establishment of a Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, which looked after the general welfare of ex-servicemen and fitted them into the general economic scheme. With the general ageing of the ex-servicemen and the outbreak of the Second World War, the purely welfare services have been developed as outlined in the succeeding paragraphs. Again, the severe depression in the early 'thirties, with the consequent drain upon the financial resources of the provinces and municipalities, forced the Dominion Government into the relief field (see the Labour Chapter of this and earlier volumes) and finally led to the establishment of a nation-wide plan of unemployment insurance.