

13.—Mothers' Allowances in British Columbia, Fiscal Years, 1936-43

NOTE.—Figures for 1921-35 are given at p. 712 of the 1941 Year Book.

Year	Families Assisted	Children Assisted	Benefits Paid		
			Chargeable to Province	Chargeable to Municipalities	Total
			No.	No.	\$
1936.....	1,485	3,026	403,558	212,997	616,555
1937.....	1,567	3,191	443,803	238,785	682,588
1938.....	1,692	3,481	747,878	Nil	747,878
1939.....	1,751	3,626	790,101	"	790,101
1940.....	1,762	3,617	810,688	"	810,688
1941.....	1,697	3,346	798,097	"	798,097
1942.....	1,552	3,072	751,835	"	751,835
1943.....	1,194	2,406	667,213	"	667,213

Section 6.—The Care of Dependent and Handicapped Groups*

Statistics regarding children and adults under care in charitable and benevolent institutions and in Children's Aid Societies were first collected by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1931 and were published in Volume IX of the census of that year. A second report was published in 1937 and a third, as yet unpublished, covers the year 1941 and provides the basis for the following analysis of the latest data collected for this division of the social welfare field.

Data in this section refers to dependent and handicapped groups under custodial care; consequently the persons enumerated cover only those who were receiving custodial care, both in approved institutions and those under the care of Children's Aid Societies in shelters and foster-homes. All homes for the care of the aged and indigent, refuges, asylums, orphanages and all Children's Aid Societies incorporated under the various Children's Protection Acts are fully represented in this survey.

The figures do not include:—

- (a) Children attending day nurseries. Day nurseries, of which there were fifteen operating in 1941, properly belong to preventive and educational services as they serve the purpose of looking after pre-school children for mothers obliged to work during the day.
- (b) Children under the protection of any Provincial Department of Child Welfare whose wards are not institutionalized. Thus, Alberta's child welfare work is directly under a Superintendent of Child Welfare who carries on his work on behalf of dependent and neglected children without the use of institutions or Children's Aid Societies. All children who become wards of the Provincial Government are placed, for care and protection, in selected homes throughout the Province. In 1940 the Provincial Report on Child Welfare for this Province stated that the number of such children placed in foster homes by the Department of Child Welfare was 615. This number does not appear under the figures for institutions for Alberta as given in this section.

The work of the various institutions and agencies covered may be classified under two main headings: the care of adults and the care of children (the term including minors under 20 years of age). The line of demarcation is not clear-cut, as many institutions care for both classes (see Table 14). Statistics in Tables 15 and 16 have been compiled to show the distinction.

* The statistics in this section are taken from the reports of the Institutions Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Tables and text have been checked by J. C. Brady, M.A., Chief of the Branch.