

Section 2.—Welfare Statistics

Subsection 1.—Unemployment Insurance

Because of its close relationship to labour and the fact that unemployment insurance is administered with selective service and manpower it is considered advisable for the present to continue to carry these statistics in the Labour Chapter. They will be found at pp. 770-773.

Subsection 2.—Family Allowances

Owing to the fact that Family Allowances came into operation July 1, 1945, it has not been found possible to include statistics on this subject at this place in the Year Book. To have done so, would have meant holding up the later chapters unduly. Such statistics on this subject as are available at the time of going to press will be found in Appendix III at the end of this volume.

Subsection 3.—Workmen's Compensation

Workmen's Compensation can be regarded from two standpoints, viz., (a) the industrial and (b) its relationship to the broad field of public welfare. It is perhaps one of those border-line cases where either point of view is justified (see Subsection 8 for others). Nevertheless, because Workmen's Compensation (unlike unemployment insurance for instance) is entirely the responsibility of industry and is closely associated with labour and the compensation of the worker, it is felt that the statistics regarding it are more logically dealt with in the Labour Chapter where they will be found at pp. 784-789. The welfare aspects of payments made to workers injured in the course of their duties should not, however, be overlooked.

Subsection 4.—Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons*

The Old Age Pensions Act, 1927.—Legislation respecting Old Age Pensions (R.S.C., 1927, c. 156) was adopted by the Dominion Parliament in 1927. Under the provisions of this statute the Dominion Government reimbursed each province participating in the Dominion scheme to the extent of one-half of the provincial expenditure for old age pensions. An amendment passed at the 1931 session of Parliament (c. 42, Statutes of 1931) provided that the Dominion contribution to the provinces be increased from 50 p.c. to 75 p.c. of the provincial disbursements for old age pensions. The Dominion contribution of 75 p.c. of provincial disbursements was made effective from Nov. 1, 1931; the provinces have since been reimbursed on this basis.

By Orders in Council passed under the authority of the War Measures Act the maximum pension has been increased from \$240 to \$300 a year and the maximum income (including pension) from \$365 to \$425 a year.

The Dominion Old Age Pensions Act is now operative in all provinces and in the Northwest Territories.

Conditions under which pensions are granted and the qualifications required of applicants are set forth at p. 705 of the 1941 Year Book.

* Revised under the direction of Dr. W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister, Department of Finance, Ottawa.