

Nova Scotia.—The Public Welfare Services are administered by the Minister of Public Welfare in the Department of Public Welfare and are specifically concerned with the following matters:—

Child and Family Welfare.—This branch of the Department includes:—

- (1) Child protection.
- (2) Assistance to and supervision of Children's Aid Societies.
- (3) Supervision of children in adoptive and foster homes.
- (4) Family case work.
- (5) Psychiatric service for children and families under (3) and (4), and for the public schools on request of the Education Department.
- (6) Inspection of all child-caring institutions and ownership of, and responsibility for, the operation of the Nova Scotia Training School for Mentally Deficient Children.

These Services include six juvenile courts and probation officers; financial aid and technical advice given to 12 Children's Aid Societies; inspection of foster homes and shelters; inspection of and per capita financial assistance to reformatory institutions. Most of the wards of the Children's Aid Societies are in either free foster homes or family boarding homes, although some are in the regular child-caring institutions. Maintenance is paid on a 40-60 p.c. basis between the Province and the municipalities. Financial provision for the maintenance of children in reformatory institutions is at the rate of \$175 per annum from the municipality and an equal amount from the Province. For children in the Training School for the Mentally Defective, the municipality pays \$200 per child per annum, all other expenses being borne by the Province.

A considerable volume of work is also done for the Dominion Government in connection with soldiers' families.

Mothers' Allowances.—Enabling legislation was passed in 1930 and became effective on Oct. 1 of that year. Statistics under the Act are given at p. 800-804.

Public Charities.—These services are varied and include aid to persons who have no legal claim on any municipality in the Province or any specific poor district but who require public assistance.

Old Age Pensions and Pensions for the Blind.—The Province has co-operated with the Dominion-Provincial Old Age Pension plan since March, 1934, and with the amendment to the Act providing for the payment of pensions to blind persons since Oct. 1, 1937. For statistics see pp. 796-798.

In addition to the above matters, the following subjects, though not part of the public welfare program proper, are controlled by the Province.

Homes for the Aged.—Although no provincial grants are paid to homes for the aged operated by municipalities, religious or private bodies and subject to provincial inspection, many such homes receive public funds indirectly. In certain cases old age pensioners boarding in these homes may pay their pensions directly to the institution or by private agreement pensions are paid to the institution by the Pension Board of the Department, when the pensioner is incapable of managing his own affairs.

The Workmen's Compensation Board.—This legislation was passed in 1915, but did not come into operation until Jan. 1, 1917. The subject of workmen's compensation is not as directly related to welfare as the other services dealt with.