

5.—Number of Persons in Receipt of Pensions for the Blind, by Provinces, 1940-45

Province	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Prince Edward Island.....	115	114	113	113	112	116
Nova Scotia.....	603	621	621	639	643	663
New Brunswick.....	702	739	737	720	737	736
Quebec.....	1,913	2,068	2,146	2,251	2,366	2,539
Ontario.....	1,427	1,496	1,516	1,481	1,487	1,526
Manitoba.....	304	326	347	344	352	361
Saskatchewan.....	284	310	321	321	332	337
Alberta.....	194	214	241	240	249	262
British Columbia.....	286	320	332	326	329	342
Totals.....	5,828	6,208	6,374	6,435	6,607	6,882

6.—Dominion Contributions to Pensions for Blind Persons, by Provinces, 1940-45

Province	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	14,360	14,079	14,524	18,192	22,034	22,439
Nova Scotia.....	100,015	105,464	107,406	110,694	135,275	141,548
New Brunswick.....	119,057	126,597	130,068	131,422	158,056	162,570
Quebec.....	326,187	360,895	374,280	424,414	516,940	561,352
Ontario.....	243,352	261,230	266,910	272,429	324,120	339,196
Manitoba.....	49,120	55,394	59,397	59,808	80,738	78,098
Saskatchewan.....	49,261	53,659	57,686	59,752	74,457	75,860
Alberta.....	33,155	35,855	39,870	45,253	53,801	56,539
British Columbia.....	49,913	54,066	57,953	63,054	72,193	75,301
Totals.....	984,420	1,067,239	1,108,094	1,185,018	1,437,614	1,512,903

Subsection 5.—Government Annuities

For over thirty-seven years the Dominion Government has carried on a service that permits and encourages Canadians to make provision for their old age during the earning period of their lives. The necessary legislation was passed in 1908 as the Government Annuities Act (c. 7, R.S.C. 1927, amended by c. 33, 1931). This Act is now administered by the Minister of Labour.

A Canadian Government Annuity is a fixed yearly income purchased from and paid by the Government of Canada. The annuity is payable in quarterly instalments (unless otherwise expressly provided) for life and may be guaranteed for ten, fifteen, or twenty years in any event. The minimum amount of annuity obtainable on the life of one person or on the lives of two persons jointly is \$10 a year and the maximum amount is \$1,200 a year.

Annuity contracts are of two classes, deferred and immediate, under each of which there are various plans available. Deferred annuity contracts are for purchase by younger persons desiring to provide for their old age, purchase being made by monthly, quarterly or yearly premiums, or by single premium. Immediate annuity contracts are for purchase by older persons who wish to obtain immediate regular incomes through their accumulated savings.

The property and interest of the annuitant in a contract for a Government annuity is neither transferable nor attachable. In the event of the death of the annuitant before the date fixed for the annuity to begin, all money paid is refunded to the purchaser or his legal representatives with interest at the rate of 4 p.c. per annum, compounded annually.