

The program, which is administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare, is highly decentralized. Under the National Director of Family Allowances there is a Regional Director for each province and for Yukon and the Northwest Territories. A welfare section in each regional office deals with welfare questions arising out of administration of the Allowances. The Supervisor of Welfare Services in each regional office serves as adviser to the Regional Director and reports through him to the Chief Supervisor of Welfare Services, who acts in a similar capacity to the National Director. Actual preparation and issuing of the cheques is the responsibility of the treasury officer attached to each regional office who reports to the Chief Treasury Officer for the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Prior to 1947, Allowances were recovered from upper income group families through Income Tax, on a sliding scale adjusted so that full recovery was made from incomes of \$3,600 or over. As this recovery was discontinued by an amendment to the Income War Tax Act effective Jan. 1, 1947, Allowances are now paid in respect of virtually all children in Canada.

Unemployment Insurance.—In 1940, by an amendment to the British North America Act, the Federal Government was given complete jurisdiction in the field of unemployment insurance and since that time a national system of unemployment insurance administered by the Unemployment Insurance Commission has been in operation, as outlined in Chapter XVIII.

Veterans' Unemployment Assistance.—The Department of Veterans Affairs does not place veterans in employment, but works closely with the Department of Labour in connection with veterans' problems. Out-of-work benefits are authorized in certain cases as outlined in Chapter XXIX.

Prairie Farm Assistance.*—The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, passed in 1939, provides for direct money payments by the Federal Government, on an acreage basis, to farmers in areas of low crop yields in the Prairie Provinces and the Peace River District of British Columbia. The Act was designed to replace assistance in the form of relief and provides that payments be made to farmers under certain conditions and terms, and requires that 1 p.c. of the purchase price of all grains (wheat, oats, barley and rye) marketed in the Prairie Provinces be paid to the Federal Government and set aside in a special fund for the purposes of the Act.

If the farmer, who may be an owner or tenant, or a member of a co-operative farm association engaged in farming, is located in a crop-failure area, he may be awarded assistance on not more than one-half of the cultivated land or a maximum of two hundred acres.

During the eight crop years, 1939-46 inclusive, the total amount paid out under the Act was \$72,791,019; the amount collected under the 1 p.c. levy was \$26,384,114.

Veterans Pensions.—The Pension Act of 1919 established a Board consisting of three members vested with exclusive power and authority to adjudicate upon pension claims and to award pensions for disability or death related to military service in the War of 1914-18. Canadian pensions legislation as it developed following the First World War is outlined in pp. 759-760 of the 1943-44 Year Book, and as subsequently amended in Chapter XXX, pp. 1139-1143 of the 1947 Year Book.

Veterans Allowances.—In addition to war pensions, allowances are paid to certain non-pensionable veterans at 60 years of age, or earlier if the veteran is permanently unemployable or to eligible veterans who, having served in a theatre

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