

Preventive work is carried out by the Family Registry Office, whereby children from tubercular families, who have not been infected but for whom there is reason to be apprehensive, are boarded out with rural families. The office, in conjunction with local clergy and doctors, maintains supervision over the moral and physical condition of these children.

Another aspect of the welfare program is the colonization scheme, whereby needy families are settled on the land in newly opened districts, and are supervised and granted financial aid until they become self-supporting.

The Department is responsible also for a number of education services not usually included in a welfare department, i.e., some fifty specialized training schools, correspondence courses and scholarship grants.

Ontario.—Public welfare services are administered by the Department of Public Welfare.

Child Welfare and Protection.—The Children's Aid Branch of the Child Welfare Division is responsible for the administration of the Children's Protection Act, the Children of Unmarried Parents Act and the Adoption Act, and for supervision of the 53 Children's Aid Societies and all institutions for children in the Province. Maintenance of wards is borne in full by the municipality of residence.

The Day Nurseries Branch of the Division administers the Act respecting Day Nurseries of 1946, which provides for the establishment of day nurseries in Ontario. Under the Act, any municipality establishing a day nursery may receive a provincial contribution equal to one-half its expenditures on operation and maintenance. The Act also provides for the supervision of all day nurseries throughout Ontario.

The British Child Guests Branch continues the supervision of British children evacuated from the United Kingdom during the Second World War who still remain in Ontario.

Since the Second World War the Children's Aid Branch has co-operated with Federal Department of Veterans Affairs in assisting in the re-establishment of returned veterans, and in family welfare problems.

Care of the Aged.—Homes for the Aged are operated under provincial supervision by counties, cities, districts and religious or benevolent societies. In 1947, two new Acts: The Homes for the Aged Act and The District Homes for the Aged Act, replaced The Houses of Refuge Act and The District Houses of Refuge Act, under which, with the Charitable Institutions Act, all Homes for the Aged are incorporated. The new Acts provide for payment by the Province of 25 p.c. of the cost of construction of new buildings or of alterations to provide additional accommodation, after plans have been approved by the Minister of Public Welfare. The Province, under an agreement with the Ontario Medical Association, provides limited medical services to old age pensioners.

Unemployment Relief.—Regulations under the Unemployment Relief Act authorize contribution on the part of the Department of Public Welfare toward the alleviation of distress of unemployable persons. Schedules of assistance are provided in the regulations and are adjusted from time to time in accordance with changing food prices. An upward adjustment of 15 p.c. was made in food allowance in 1947. Municipalities are reimbursed 50 p.c. of their expenditure, while in the unorganized areas the Province administers and pays the total cost of aid rendered.