

together with a pension for blindness under the Pension Act. As of Mar. 31, 1949, 251,865 persons, representing approximately 43 p.c. of the total population aged 70 or over were in receipt of Old Age Pensions, and Pensions for the Blind were paid to 9,567 persons.

The Federal Government contributes, in respect of each person in receipt of pension, a sum not exceeding 75 p.c. of \$40 monthly or of the monthly amount paid by the province, whichever is less, so that while the province may pay a higher maximum pension within the income limits fixed by the Act, the Federal contribution is payable only in respect of an amount of pension up to \$480 annually. Pensions are paid by the provinces, with Federal Government reimbursement being made through the Department of National Health and Welfare. The provinces are responsible for payment of their administrative costs.

Since 1942, certain provinces have paid supplementary allowances in addition to pensions. As of Apr. 1, 1949, the following monthly rates were in effect: British Columbia, \$10; Alberta, \$10; Saskatchewan, up to \$5; Manitoba, up to \$5; Nova Scotia, up to \$5; in Ontario the supplementary allowance was one-twelfth of the basic Federal-Provincial pension, plus an amount up to \$7.50. Following the 1949 increase in pension, some provinces ceased to pay the supplementary allowance. As of June, 1949, the following provinces were paying the supplements: British Columbia, \$10; Alberta, \$7.50; Saskatchewan, \$2.50\*.

Implementation of the Old Age Pensions Act in any given province is contingent upon the province passing enabling legislation and signing an agreement with the Federal Government. Each provincial plan must be submitted to the Governor in Council for approval and may not be changed without consent. Administrative responsibility for the program is vested in the individual province where a Board or Commission acts as the pension authority. The Federal aspects are administered by the Old Age Pensions Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

\* Yukon also pays a supplementary allowance. The rate since July 1, 1949, is \$10 monthly.

