

## 6.—Statistics of Pensions for the Blind for Years 1947-49

Province and Effective Date of Act	Year Ended Mar. 31	Average Pension <sup>1</sup>	Number of Pensioners <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Pensioners <sup>1</sup> to Population <sup>2</sup>	Federal Contribution During Year Ended Mar. 31
		\$	No.	p. c.	\$
Prince Edward Island. (Dec. 1, 1937)	1947	22-84	121	0-129	24,211
	1948	27-91	126	0-134	29,424
	1949	28-58	122	0-131	30,929
Nova Scotia. (Oct. 1, 1937)	1947	24-25	685	0-112	147,486
	1948	29-59	805	0-130	181,815
	1949	29-62	878	0-138	224,480
New Brunswick. (Sept. 1, 1937)	1947	24-65	758	0-158	166,414
	1948	29-83	896	0-182	217,407
	1949	29-66	1,000	0-199	263,021
Quebec. (Oct. 1, 1937)	1947	24-73	2,709	0-075	605,761
	1948	29-69	3,178	0-086	801,694
	1949	29-60	3,544	0-093	939,002
Ontario. (Sept. 1, 1937)	1947	24-71	1,623	0-040	359,860
	1948	29-83	1,814	0-043	464,884
	1949	29-63	2,070	0-048	564,315
Manitoba. (Sept. 1, 1937)	1947	24-71	391	0-054	86,625
	1948	29-92	455	0-061	114,975
	1949	29-68	503	0-066	134,300
Saskatchewan. (Nov. 15, 1937)	1947	24-83	363	0-044	81,939
	1948	29-78	409	0-049	107,611
	1949	29-69	451	0-053	124,068
Alberta. (Mar. 7, 1938)	1947	24-51	290	0-036	62,155
	1948	29-98	332	0-040	81,256
	1949	29-84	418	0-049	104,681
British Columbia. (Dec. 1, 1937)	1947	24-59	370	0-037	80,435
	1948	29-67	460	0-044	108,589
	1949	29-15	580	0-054	146,888
<b>Totals (including Northwest Territories)</b>	<b>1947</b>	<b>24-63</b>	<b>7,311</b>	<b>0-059</b>	<b>1,615,136</b>
	<b>1948</b>	<b>29-73</b>	<b>8,476</b>	<b>0-067</b>	<b>2,107,990</b>
	<b>1949<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>29-59</b>	<b>9,567</b>	<b>0-074</b>	<b>2,532,074</b>

<sup>1</sup> For the month of March of the fiscal year indicated. <sup>2</sup> Based on population estimate for preceding June. <sup>3</sup> Not including Newfoundland and Yukon which entered the Pensions for the Blind Scheme in 1949.

## Subsection 2.—National Physical Fitness Program

Under the National Physical Fitness Act of 1943 a joint Federal-Provincial program is carried on to improve the physical and mental fitness and the cultural development of the Canadian people. The program is designed primarily to assist and stimulate local community activity, with the Federal and Provincial Governments having as their main concern the initiation and provision of services requested by the community.

Through the Act, Federal grants totalling \$225,000 annually, paid on a matching per capita basis, are made available each year to those provinces which undertake to promote a fitness and recreational program as provided in the Act. With the entry of Ontario in April, 1949, eight provinces participate in the program. On Newfoundland entering Confederation, in 1949, special provision was made for an additional \$7,000 to be made available for the new Province in the event that it chose to participate.

The National Council on Physical Fitness, which is composed of not fewer than three nor more than ten members, appointed by the Governor in Council, was established under the Act. The National Council which meets at least semi-annually, serves in an advisory capacity to the Minister of National Health and Welfare and provides liaison between the different levels of government and with