

Province provides child welfare services. Under agreement between the societies and the Government, payment is made conditional on the provision of a basic level of service and the collection of equivalent voluntary contributions.

Heretofore the municipality of residence was responsible for the total cost of maintenance of wards. Beginning Jan. 1, 1949, the Province assumed a portion of these costs by reimbursing municipalities on a *pro rata* basis from a \$300,000 fund provided for the purpose.

The Child Welfare Division provides foster-home care and supervision for mental defectives placed under the custodianship of the Director. The Broadway Home at Winnipeg, an advanced training school for mentally defective girls, comes under the joint direction of the Divisions of Public Welfare and Psychiatry.

Care of the Aged.—All institutions and nursing homes caring for the aged and infirm are supervised and licensed by the Provincial Department of Health and Welfare under Public Health Act Regulations. The largest of these Institutions, with 420 beds, accepts only applications made through public authorities where a definite guarantee of maintenance is provided by either the Province or the municipality. Other than this no financial assistance is given by the Province.

Social Assistance.—The Province assumes responsibility for social assistance or general relief in unorganized territory and for assistance to non-resident transients. Responsibility for other general assistance rests with the municipality of residence.

During the year, agreements were completed with the Federal Department of Labour for the joint financing of a provincial program of assistance to indigent persons of the Japanese race settled in Manitoba by the British Columbia Security Commission, and for a program of medical assistance to needy displaced persons brought to Manitoba by the Federal Department of Labour. The cost of this program of medical assistance is to be shared equally by the Federal and Provincial Governments.

Saskatchewan

Public welfare services are administered by the Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

The Department is divided into four main branches: Child Welfare, Old Age Pensions, Social Aid and Corrections; it operates the Home for the Aged and Infirm, and the Regina Nursing Home. The Social Welfare Board established by the Social Welfare Act, 1945, consists of the Deputy Minister as Chairman, and the Directors of the four major branches; it supervises the granting of all forms of assistance provided by the Department and acts in an advisory capacity to the Minister of Social Welfare.

Child Care and Protection.—The Child Welfare Act and the Education of Blind and Deaf Children Act are administered by the Child Welfare Branch and involve supervision of all child welfare services in the Province. When possible, children are placed in foster homes, and in some cases older children are placed on farms under wage agreements. The Branch operates five child-caring institutions for the care of wards until they can be returned to their parents or placed in foster or adoption homes. A portion of the maintenance costs of all wards is paid by the municipality of residence, except for children born out of wedlock where an attempt is made to recover from the father. Financial responsibility, however, is limited so that it will not exceed one mill of the municipality's tax rate, and ceases when the child reaches 16 years of age.