

issue grants to municipalities of an amount up to 60 p.c. of the cost of maintenance of indigent residents. The Maternal Welfare Act provides for a grant of up to \$15 to needy mothers prior to or immediately following the birth of a child.

The Bureau of Public Welfare operates a rehabilitation service to families by settling them on suitable farm lands. The Single Men's Division maintains four hostels, one each at Edmonton and Calgary and two in rural areas, to care for destitute single homeless men without permanent municipal domicile. Single ex-service men are cared for at Calgary and Edmonton without being institutionalized. The Province assumes the cost of these projects.

*Métis Rehabilitation.*—The rehabilitation of the Métis is the responsibility of the Métis Rehabilitation Branch and has been carried out by the setting aside of tracts of land as Métis Settlement Areas, where settlers have exclusive fishing, hunting and trapping rights and where they are encouraged to engage in lumbering, agriculture and stock-raising. Educational and social services are provided, and government-operated stores sell goods at cost price.

### British Columbia

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

*Organization and Field Service.*—The Province is divided for administrative purposes into five Regions with 27 District Offices. This decentralized administration allows for regional payment of social allowances and professional supervision of staff. Generalized field service to all persons receiving assistance is given by provincial social workers in the territory to which each is assigned.

Under the Social Assistance Act, cities and municipalities of over 10,000 population must have their own Social Welfare Departments to administer the Social Assistance Act and to give case-work services to old age pensioners and mothers' allowance recipients. The Province pays 50 p.c. of the salaries of municipal social workers, or where more than one is needed, matches the municipal appointees, worker for worker. Smaller municipalities may either have their own Social Welfare Departments or pay the Province 15 cents per capita each year for the services of the Social Welfare Branch. There are five municipalities with only one social worker and eight with an amalgamated staff, the remainder choosing the 15 cents per capita alternative.

The Province reimburses the municipalities 80 p.c. of the cost of all forms of social assistance with the exception of Old Age Pensions, Pensions for the Blind and Mothers' Allowances to which the municipalities do not contribute. Nursing-home or boarding-home costs over and above the pension or allowance are shared on an 80-20 provincial-municipal basis.

*Child Care and Protection.*—The administration of the Protection of Children Act, the Adoption Act, the Children of Unmarried Parents Act and the placement of children in foster homes is carried on by the Child Welfare Division, except at Vancouver and Victoria where Children's Aid Societies are located. Administration of the Boys' and Girls' Industrial Schools, family case work and rehabilitative supervision of all boys and girls who have been treated at the schools is carried on in co-operation with the Juvenile Courts.

*Care of the Aged.*—The Provincial Home is operated for the care of aged men. Several cities and municipalities also operate Homes for the Aged; grants of 33 p.c. of the capital cost of construction are made by the Province.