

Government doctors and dentists usually accompany the Eastern Arctic Patrol to treat the natives at each point of call. Tuberculosis surveys have been made and many victims of this disease have been brought out to sanatoria for treatment.

The assistance rendered through the payment of family allowances has proved of great benefit to the native people. Eskimos do not receive family allowances by cheque, but are paid in kind according to an authorized list of goods restricted to items of benefit to growing children. Large quantities of powdered milk and other prepared foods are among the commodities supplied.

An allowance of \$8 per month in goods to Eskimos over 70 years of age was authorized during 1948 and is being wisely used.

Attention is being given to the provision of a suitable educational program for the Eskimos and a number of schools, staffed by welfare teachers, have been established, sometimes in conjunction with the nursing stations.

Game preserves have been established where only natives may hunt and the game laws are designed to conserve caribou and other wildlife for the benefit of the native population. The inadequacy of these resources to support the native population under present conditions is becoming an acute problem and arrangements have been made to rehabilitate certain groups of Eskimos from areas where game is scarce to areas where the wildlife resources are more plentiful.

The Canadian Government has for a number of years operated a reindeer project near Aklavik as a possible means of improving the economic condition of the Eskimos. Research is going on to determine the possibility of developing other resources such as fisheries, thus broadening the native economy. In conjunction with the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, steps are being taken to encourage and organize a handicraft industry. To a limited extent, employment other than hunting and trapping is gradually becoming available to the Eskimos who have excellent potentialities.

Section 2.—Federal-Provincial Programs

Subsection 1.—Old Age Pensions and Pensions for the Blind

Old Age Pensions and Pensions for the Blind, which are paid jointly by the Federal and Provincial Governments, are authorized by the Old Age Pensions Act, 1927, and amendments. The amendment of 1937 authorized pensions for the blind. The original Act and amendments up to 1947 are outlined at pp. 258-260 of the 1948-49 Year Book. The amendment of Apr. 30, 1949, effective May 1, 1949, raised the maximum monthly pension to which the Federal Government may contribute. Old Age Pensions became effective in the different provinces and territories on various dates between 1927 and 1949 (see Table 5, p. 235.).

Old Age Pensions up to a maximum of \$40 per month may be paid to persons aged 70 years and over whose annual income, including pension, is not more than \$600 for a single person, \$1,080 for a married person, or \$1,200 if married to a blind person. Pensions are paid to blind persons 21 years of age or over, whose maximum annual income, including pension, is not more than \$720 for a single person, \$920 if there is a dependent child or, in the case of married persons if the total income of the couple, including pension, is not more than \$1,200 or \$1,320 if both are blind. The exact pension payable in each case depends on the amount of outside income and resources of the pensioner. To be eligible for the Old Age Pension or a Pension