

for the Blind, the applicant must have resided in Canada for 20 years immediately preceding the proposed commencement of pension, or, if absent from Canada during that time, must have had a previous residence equal to twice the length of the period of absence.

Old Age Pensions and Pensions for the Blind are not paid concurrently, or together with an allowance under the War Veterans' Allowance Act, 1946, or to an Indian as defined by the Indian Act, and Pensions for the Blind are not paid together with a pension for blindness under the Pension Act. As of Mar. 31, 1950, 282,584 persons, representing approximately 45 p.c. of the total population aged 70 years or over were in receipt of Old Age Pensions, and Pensions for the Blind were paid to 10,517 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 \$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. Some of these were discontinued as the maximum pension available under the federal legislation was increased. As of March, 1950, the following provinces were paying supplements: British Columbia, \$10; Alberta, \$10; Saskatchewan, up to \$2.50. Yukon also pays a monthly supplement of \$10.

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.

5.—Old Age Pensions Statistics, by Provinces, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1947-50

Province or Territory and Effective Date of Act	Year Ended Mar.31—	Average Pension <sup>1</sup>	Pen-sioners <sup>1</sup>	P.C. of Pen-sioners <sup>1</sup> to Popu-lation <sup>2</sup>	P.C. of Persons Age 70 Years or Over to Popu-lation <sup>2</sup>	P.C. of Pen-sioners <sup>1</sup> to Popu-lation Age 70 Years or Over <sup>2</sup>	Federal Con-tribution During Year
		\$	No.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	\$
Newfoundland..... (Apr. 1, 1949)	1950	29.47	10,296	2.96	3.82	77.41	2,229,446
Prince Edward Island..... (July 1, 1933)	1947	19.36	2,112	2.25	6.38	35.20	350,808
	1948	24.82	2,417	2.57	6.60	38.98	478,924
	1949	26.36	2,688	2.89	6.67	43.35	593,070
	1950	34.36	2,976	3.17	6.81	46.50	865,299

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 236.