

placed in foster homes, paid boarding homes or institutions. Financial responsibility for wards of the Government, for whom a maintenance order has been issued by the Court, rests with the municipality of residence. However, under the Public Welfare Assistance Act, 1949, the Province may provide grants of up to 60 p.c. of the maintenance costs. Reform schools for incorrigible delinquent children are maintained, and other delinquent children are placed in private homes under the supervision and inspection of the Home Investigating Committee of the Department.

*Care of the Aged.*—Under the Home for Aged or Infirm Act, 1945, the Province reimburses municipalities 50 p.c. of the costs of maintaining aged or infirm persons resident in municipally licensed homes. The grants may not exceed a prescribed maximum and are contingent upon maintenance of certain standards.

*Social Assistance.*—The Province pays the total cost of assistance to indigent families who have no municipal residence and to indigent families in unorganized districts. Municipalities are responsible for assistance to their needy residents but the Public Welfare Assistance Act, 1949, authorizes provincial grants to the municipalities of up to 60 p.c. of these assistance costs. 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 unemployable, 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.*—For administrative purposes, the Province is divided 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. Five municipalities have only one social worker each and eight have an amalgamated staff. The remainder pay the 15 cents per capita alternative.