

The Department administers the Provincial Housing Act which empowers the Province to enter into public housing projects under Sect. 35 of the National Housing Act, and to stimulate construction of low-rental housing projects by limited-dividend housing corporations.

Alberta.—The Department of Public Welfare is responsible for the administration of provincial welfare measures. It has branches at the four larger centres, and inspectors are located in suitable areas throughout the Province.

Child Care and Protection.—The care of children who are made wards of the Government under court orders or by agreement is under the control of the Child Welfare Commission. These children may be placed in foster homes or in licensed boarding homes or institutions. Permanent wards may also be placed in adoptive homes. The cost of maintenance of wards is paid by the Province which recovers 40 p.c. of such cost from the municipality of residence. The Home Investigating Committee is responsible for the inspection and the licensing, where required, of all homes and institutions in which children are given care. The Attorney-General's Department administers legislation regarding juvenile delinquency.

Care of the Aged.—The Province reimburses municipalities for 50 p.c. of cost incurred for the maintenance of needy, aged or infirm persons in municipally licensed homes. These homes must meet a specified standard before a licence is given and they are inspected periodically by officials of the Department of Public Welfare.

Social Assistance.—Municipalities are responsible for assistance to indigent residents but the Province is authorized to make grants to the municipalities of up to 60 p.c. of the value of the assistance. The Province pays the total cost of assistance granted to transients and to residents of unorganized districts, subject to a refund of 40 p.c. from the districts, through the Department of Municipal Affairs. Families may be assisted through settlement on suitable farm lands. The Single Men's Division maintains two hostels and one welfare centre to care for unemployable, single, homeless men without municipal domicile. Single ex-service men are cared for at Calgary and Edmonton without being placed in institutions. The Province has also established nine Metis colonies where settlers have extensive fishing, hunting and trapping rights, and are encouraged to engage in lumbering, agriculture and stock-raising. Educational services are provided and government-operated stores sell goods at cost price.

Widows and Disabled Persons Pensions.—Under the Widows Pension Act which came into force on Apr. 1, 1952, widows aged 60 to 64 years, inclusive, may receive pensions of up to \$40 per month. Wives of husbands committed to hospital under the Mental Diseases Act and wives who have been deserted without reasonable cause for a specified period are also eligible if within the age group. To be eligible, applicants must meet certain conditions of need and residence and must not be in receipt of a mothers' or blind persons' allowance. The maximum income including the pension is \$720 a year.

The Disabled Persons Pension Act, which came into force on June 1, 1953, provides for the payment of pensions of up to \$40 per month to persons who are not under 21 years of age and who have suffered from a chronic disability for at least 12 months and are therefore unable to accept gainful employment. To be eligible, an applicant must not be in receipt of assistance under certain other statutory