

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 Métis 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, 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 Disabled Persons Pension Act provides for the payment of pensions of up to \$40 per month to persons suffering from a chronic disability and unable to accept gainful employment.

British Columbia.—The administration of provincial welfare services by the Social Welfare Branch of the Department of Health and Welfare is decentralized through district and municipal offices in six regions covering the whole Province. Generalized field service is provided by provincial social workers. The staff of the Social Welfare Branch is also responsible for welfare services required in connection with a number of programs operated by the Health Branch.

Cities and municipalities of over 10,000 population must have their own social welfare departments to administer the social assistance program and to provide case-work services. 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 have their own or amalgamated social welfare departments or they may pay for the services of the Social Welfare Branch.

Child Care and Protection.—The Child Welfare Division administers legislation governing the protection of children, including adoptions, and provides direct services except at Vancouver and Victoria where it supervises the Children's Aid Societies. Municipalities are responsible for the costs of maintaining wards, but the Province reimburses them to the extent of 80 p.c. of such expenditure and pays the entire cost for children in unorganized areas. The Province pays the total maintenance cost of wards who are children of unmarried mothers. Child-caring institutions, boarding homes and day nurseries are licensed and supervised. The Social Welfare Branch administers an industrial school for delinquent boys and one for delinquent girls. Family case-work and rehabilitative supervision of children