

in their respective areas. Neglected children may be made wards of the Director of Public Welfare or of a Children's Aid Society. Municipalities are responsible for the maintenance of wards with provincial reimbursement on the basis outlined below under Social Assistance. Payment of annual provincial grants to Children's Aid Societies is conditional on the provision of a basic level of service and the collection of substantial voluntary contributions.

The Division provides foster home care and supervision for mental defectives placed in the custody of the Director of Public Welfare and, with the Division of Psychiatry, operates a home for mentally defective girls. The Attorney General's Department is responsible for Juvenile Courts and operates a boys' home and a girls' home for delinquents.

Care of the Aged.—Institutions and nursing homes for the aged and infirm are supervised and licensed by the Department under public health legislation. Under the Elderly Persons Housing Act, the Province makes construction grants to municipalities, charitable organizations or limited dividend companies equalling 20 p.c. of costs for housing accommodation and one-third of the costs of building and renovating homes for the aged.

Social Assistance.—Municipalities are responsible for social assistance, which is defined as relief to indigents, together with maintenance costs of children under the Child Welfare Act. The Province reimburses a municipality to the extent of at least 40 p.c. of its social assistance costs; where it is to the municipality's advantage, provincial reimbursement is on the basis of 80 p.c. of the excess of the municipality's social assistance costs over the revenue the municipality receives from a tax levy of one mill on its equalized assessment. The Province is responsible for aid to persons without municipal residence as well as for general assistance in unorganized territory. Federal payments to the Province, made by agreement under the federal Unemployment Assistance Act 1956 (*see* p. 282), were made retroactive to July 1, 1955.

Saskatchewan.—Provincial welfare services are administered by the Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

Child Care and Protection.—The Department provides welfare services for children throughout the Province with the exception of Saskatoon where certain responsibilities are delegated to the Children's Aid Society. Children found to be neglected are, by court order, made wards of the Minister and are placed in foster homes, adoptive homes or institutions. A portion of the maintenance costs of wards, except of children born out of wedlock, for whom the Province assumes the entire cost, is paid by the municipality of residence. The Branch operates two institutions for the temporary care of wards and also a program of non-ward care.

The Corrections Branch of the Department is responsible for both adult and juvenile correctional services, supervises probation and parole services for juvenile delinquents and administers the Saskatchewan Boys' School and the provincial gaols. The Juvenile Court is presided over by a judge who devotes his time exclusively to cases of juvenile delinquency. Juveniles are discharged from correctional institutions only by parole. A Youth Guidance Authority supervises the discharging of juveniles from probation, from institutions and from parole.

Care of the Aged.—Aged and infirm persons are cared for in four provincial nursing homes and in private homes for the aged. The latter are inspected and licensed under the Housing Act which also empowers the Province and municipalities to subscribe to the stock of limited-dividend housing companies building low-rental accommodation for older persons. The Province may also make loans to the municipalities to assist them in subscribing. Capital grants amounting to 20 p.c. of construction costs and also maintenance grants equalling \$40 per bed per year, may be made to municipalities, church or charitable organizations sponsoring approved homes or housing projects.