



**Administration.**—Pursuant to the British North America Act, the administration of Indian Affairs, which had been under the management of several provinces, came under the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada. Since January 1950, Indian affairs have been the responsibility of a Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.

The Indian Affairs Branch is composed of a headquarters staff at Ottawa, eight regional offices, two district offices in the Province of Ontario and 88 field agencies. Specialists in such matters as education, economic development, resource management, social welfare, and engineering and construction are attached to headquarters and regional staffs. Liaison is maintained with the Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Health and Welfare, the federal agency concerned with the medical care of Indians (see p. 277).

It is the primary function of the Indian Affairs Branch to administer the affairs of Indians in a manner that will enable them to participate fully in the social and economic life of the country. To this end, the Branch has brought into effect a wide range of programs in the fields of education, economic development, social welfare and community development. Underlying administrative duties of the Branch include the management of Indian reserves and surrendered lands, the administration of band funds, estates management, enfranchisement of Indians and the administration of treaty obligations.

**Economic Development.**—A number of self-help programs are in operation, intended to give all Indians the opportunity of earning satisfactory incomes. Special attention is given to the placement of Indians in employment; the promotion of agriculture and stock-raising on reserves; the fostering of Indian enterprise and the provision of loans; home industries and handicrafts; the management of fur, fish and wildlife resources; and assistance in developing other resources on or with access to the reserves.

Placement officers of the National Employment Service, located at a number of centres, help develop job opportunities for Indians and to promote their employment in a wider range of occupations, a program which includes vocational and trade training. The Indian Affairs Branch has arranged for community organizations to counsel Indians who are becoming established in urban centres outside reserves and it also fosters the relocation