

assessment and provision of services to disabled individuals, of training personnel and of research, the provinces have developed comprehensive programs in co-operation with existing services. Approved services comprise medical, social and vocational assessment, counselling, restorative services, vocational training and employment placement. A provincial co-ordinator of rehabilitation is responsible for the co-ordination and administration of these services to disabled individuals in each province. In the year ended Mar. 31, 1966, the provincial staff employed in vocational rehabilitation totalled 323.

The federal aspects of the program are administered by the National Co-ordinator of Rehabilitation through the Civilian Rehabilitation Branch of the Department of Manpower and Immigration. The Minister of that Department receives the advice of the National Advisory Council on the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons, composed of representatives of the provinces, employers, labour, the medical profession, national voluntary agencies and the universities. In 1965-66, federal-provincial expenditures under the program (exclusive of vocational training) totalled \$1,714,623. Full reports were received on 2,451 disabled persons rehabilitated during the year; before rehabilitation most of these persons and their dependants relied on private or public assistance for support at an estimated annual cost of \$1,600,000 but following rehabilitation the estimated amount earned by those gainfully employed was \$5,600,000.

The Civilian Rehabilitation Branch, through its Division of Older Workers, also has the function of encouraging a more favourable employment climate for older workers through the development of a long-range educational program, the encouragement of research, the maintenance of liaison with employer and labour organizations and voluntary agencies in Canada and other countries, and the assembly and dissemination of information.

Under the sections of the Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act of 1961 that provide for equal federal-provincial sharing of the cost of approved programs for the training of disabled persons for gainful employment, there were in 1965-66 approximately 3,900 persons enrolled in various courses; federal payments amounted to \$799,894. Referrals for job placement are made to 386 special services officers in 211 local Manpower and Employment Offices. Placements of handicapped persons in 1965-66 (including those referred from provincial rehabilitation authorities) numbered 23,658.

With the integration of the federal-provincial vocational rehabilitation program into the new Canada Manpower Services,* vocational rehabilitation services will be increasingly extended to persons with handicaps to employability other than physical and mental impairment.

Section 3.—Provincial Welfare Programs

Major welfare programs governed by provincial legislation include general assistance and social allowances, mothers' allowances, services for the aged, and child welfare services. Also, the Province of Quebec has established and is operating the Quebec Pension Plan, which is comparable to the Canada Pension Plan; both Plans commenced in January 1966 and are to be closely co-ordinated (see pp. 309-312). In most provinces, responsibility for a number of the programs is shared by the provinces and their municipalities. Provincial administration is carried out through the department of public welfare in each province; several departments have established regional offices to facilitate administration and to provide consultative services to the municipalities.

The provincial departments of public welfare are placing increasing emphasis on standards of administration and on rehabilitative services for social assistance recipients, several provinces having recently introduced legislation under which the province will share with the municipalities the costs of preventive and rehabilitative welfare services. In the field of child welfare, the main efforts are being directed toward improvement of standards with particular emphasis on preventive casework services for children in their own homes, development of specialized children's institutions, group-living homes, and the finding of adoption homes for all children in need of them.

* See Chapter XVIII on Labour.