

Care of the Aged.—Homes for the aged are operated under municipal, religious, fraternal or private auspices and are subject to provincial inspection but they receive no direct financial support from the Province.

Social Assistance.—Relief to unemployables is a local responsibility.

Quebec.—Major responsibility for the administration of provincial welfare measures is shared by the Department of Health and the Department of Social Welfare and Youth. The former administers the Quebec Public Charities Act which embodies the Government's policy of granting subsidies to religious and private institutions where they exist rather than creating public services. Grants are made to these institutions on a per diem basis, with the Province, the municipality of residence and the institution sharing the cost of maintenance of indigent persons admitted for care. The Department of Social Welfare and Youth is responsible for preventive and rehabilitative work among neglected and dependent children and for grants to recreation and welfare agencies, in addition to certain important educational functions. Social Welfare Courts are, however, under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Attorney-General.

Child Care and Protection.—Needy or abandoned children are generally cared for in institutions such as orphanages, nurseries and other homes, assisted under the Quebec Public Charities Act, although there is an increasing use of foster homes by child-welfare agencies. However, children who are found by a Social Welfare Court or other court to be particularly exposed to moral or physical dangers may be admitted to recognized youth protection schools under the Youth Protection Schools Act, 1950, administered by the Department of Social Welfare and Youth. Municipalities of residence are required by law to contribute 50 p.c. of the operating and maintenance costs of these schools but, in practice, the Province pays approximately 87 p.c. of all expenses and the entire cost of new construction. The Social Welfare Courts, which in 1950 replaced Juvenile Courts, have statutory responsibility in connection with child and youth protection and certain other provincial programs and also serve as Family Courts.

Children who have been exposed to tuberculosis but who have not been infected are placed with rural families under the supervision of the Department of Health in co-operation with child-welfare agencies.

Care of the Aged.—Institutional care for indigent old people is provided under the Quebec Public Charities Act through private institutions. Under the same Act, family-welfare agencies administer home allowances to needy old people who do not require institutional care.

Social Assistance.—Financial aid is not provided to needy families in Quebec but institutional care for indigents is available under the Quebec Public Charities Act. The Department of Colonization operates a program whereby families in need are settled on the land in newly opened districts and granted financial aid until they become self-supporting. In these areas, a disability pension scheme is linked to a program of free medical services.

Ontario.—Provincial welfare services are administered by the Department of Public Welfare. The Province is divided into 17 welfare districts with a supervisor in charge of each district.