

participated in the program. The amounts made available to the individual provinces are given in the 1954 Canada Year Book, p. 253. National Fitness Scholarships were awarded annually to provide financial assistance to professionally qualified Canadians with three years' successful experience who desired to improve their professional qualifications.

The Physical Fitness Act was repealed in June 1954 but commitments in respect to agreements already made with the provinces were provided for under the repealing Act. The Physical Fitness Division, through which the Act was administered, continues to function within the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The Division provides consultative services on all aspects of fitness and recreation at the request of federal and provincial departments and national organizations. It acts as a clearing house for the latest information on fitness, recreation, community centres, physical education, athletics, sports and games, theatre arts and related activities. It operates a preview library service for visual aids. In addition, it maintains liaison with national associations and comparable organizations in other countries. To an increasing extent during the past few years, the Division has given direct assistance to provincial authorities by the provision of professional consultant services regarding organization and specialized instruction for leadership training courses at the regional and provincial level. These services augment those provided by provincial fitness and recreation offices, particularly in those specialized fields where the province is unable to provide services of its own.

#### **Subsection 5.—Training Programs**

Under the Vocational Training Co-ordination Act of 1942 (R.S.C. 1952, c. 286), the Federal Department of Labour, in co-operation with the provincial governments, carries on various training projects. Details of these schemes will be found in Chapter XVIII, Section 6.

### **Section 3.—Provincial Programs**

#### **Subsection 1.—Mothers' Allowances**

All provinces have statutory provision for allowances to enable certain needy mothers to remain at home to care for their dependent children. The total cost of this assistance is paid from provincial funds, except in Alberta where a portion of each allowance is charged to the municipality of residence.

Subject to the conditions of eligibility, which vary from province to province, the allowances are payable to applicants who are widowed or whose husbands are mentally incapacitated and, except in Alberta, to those whose husbands are physically disabled and unable to support their families. They are also payable, except in Nova Scotia, to deserted wives who meet specified conditions; in several provinces to mothers who have been granted a divorce or legal separation and in some to unmarried mothers. Adoptive mothers and foster mothers are also eligible under certain circumstances. The age limit for children is 16 years except in Manitoba where it is 15 years and in Newfoundland where it is 17 years. Provision is made in most provinces to extend payment for a specified period if the child is attending school and six provinces continue to pay allowances on behalf of physically and mentally handicapped children for from two to five years.