

6.—Numbers and Values of Annuity Contracts as at Mar. 31, 1954 and 1955

Classification	1954			1955		
	Contracts	Amount of Annuities	Value at Mar. 31 of Contracts in Force	Contracts	Amount of Annuities	Value at Mar. 31 of Contracts in Force
	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$
Immediate ordinary.....	27,096	10,555,822	96,652,531	29,300	11,523,910	104,098,205
Immediate guaranteed.....	32,482	17,177,733	193,635,041	33,140	17,833,023	199,412,496
Immediate last survivor.....	4,354	2,111,219	28,072,800	4,286	2,102,382	27,554,176
Immediate reducing at age 70.	473	436,762	3,923,440	1,404	1,306,971	11,115,385
Deferred.....	261,277	1	476,170,202	281,531	1	522,362,776
Totals.....	325,682	30,281,536	798,454,014	349,661	32,766,286	864,543,038

¹ Undetermined.

Subsection 4.—Other Federal Government Programs

Unemployment Insurance and National Employment Service.—In 1940, by an amendment to the British North America Act, the Federal Government was given jurisdiction in the field of unemployment insurance and the Unemployment Insurance Act was passed, establishing a national system of unemployment insurance which is outlined in Chapter XVIII.

The National Employment Service is operated in conjunction with the unemployment insurance scheme. It is administered through local employment and claims offices and supervised by the Department of Labour. Statistics of positions offered and placements made are given in Chapter XVIII.

Prairie Farm Assistance.—The Prairie Farm Assistance Act is administered by the Department of Agriculture; a description of the legislation is given in Chapter IX.

Welfare Services for Indians and Eskimos.—The welfare of Indians and Eskimos is administered by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, respectively; this field is covered in the Population Chapter, pp. 173 and 174.

Section 2.—Federal-Provincial Programs

Unemployment Aid.—Discussions took place at a federal-provincial conference called in April 1955 to consider the problem of relief for needy unemployed persons not covered by unemployment insurance. This was followed by technical sessions at which various suggestions for sharing the costs were considered. In June the Prime Minister reported to the House of Commons that provincial representatives had decided to consider with their governments a modified federal proposal under which the Federal Government would accept one-half the cost of relief for the number of unemployed in each province in excess of 0.45 p.c. of the population, with certain adjustments being made to accommodate special situations in some provinces. This starting point would make it unnecessary for the Federal Government to make any distinction between persons who are employable and those who are not employable. Following consideration by the provinces the details of the plan are to be embodied in agreements with each province joining therein.