

annual growth of some 17 per cent in the industry. To encourage this important source of revenue, the Indian Affairs Branch maintains a marketing service and provides basic materials and other types of assistance on a repayable basis.

Indian farmers are eligible for assistance under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act, the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, and other federal statutes of general application. In addition, the Branch provides financial assistance to encourage young Indians to engage in farming and to help those already so engaged. The Branch is prepared to help Indians to finance co-operatives and small business when competent management is provided and the Indians concerned are familiar with the business principles and practices involved and have a financial stake in the enterprise.

Education

This major key to continued Indian progress receives ever-increasing support from Indian parents, from their school committees, from provincial governments, and from professional groups specifically concerned with classroom instruction of Indian pupils. The Indian Affairs Branch maintains and operates a number of schools for Indians, but 22,764 of the 55,475 Indian school population attend provincial schools. Attendance of Indians at provincial schools has been arranged, for the most part, through agreements between the Branch and individual school boards. In 1964, however, an agreement was concluded with the Province of Manitoba to provide for a uniform tuition fee to be paid by the Branch for Indian pupils attending schools under the jurisdiction of that province. Manitoba also passed legislation to give Indian children the right to attend any provincial school.

There are three types of Indian school, all operated at the expense of the Federal Government. On many reserves, day schools provide education for children who live at home. Residential schools care for orphaned children, children from broken homes, and for those who, because of isolation or for other reasons, are unable to attend day schools. The third type of school gives instruction to children confined to hospital.

All standard classroom supplies and authorized textbooks are used in Indian schools, which follow generally the curriculum of the province in which they are located. Financial assistance for pupils attending non-Indian schools varies from payment of tuition fees to full maintenance. Promising senior students are awarded scholarships to attend university or vocational school and scholarships are given to those who show promise in the arts.

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