

training and proper care, and removal from contact with those who may be more or less criminally inclined.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS ACT

The object of this Act is to provide children with home life and care of a suitable character, and to keep them out of institutions when the father, the bread-winner, has died or become incapacitated, either from physical or mental disability.

Until the passing of this Act, if a man were incapacitated from any permanent mental or physical disability his wife and children would not be entitled under any law of the Province to receive any financial consideration to maintain the home. The same was true if a worker died from any disease; there was no provision made for the care of his widow and his family.

The necessity of helping the worthy mother who is earning a living to bring up her children in the way they should go, and the cruel and painful consequences of separating her from her children, have received due consideration in one of the broadest Mothers' Pensions Acts in existence. Under this Act pensions may be given the mother for herself and her children under sixteen if she is—

- (a) A widow; or
- (b) A married woman whose husband is an inmate of a penal institution or public hospital for insane; or
- (c) A woman whose husband is unable to support his family by reason of sickness or accident arising while his wife was residing in this Province; or
- (d) A deserted wife; or
- (e) Any other person whose case, in the opinion of the Superintendent, is a proper one for assistance under the provisions of this Act.

This pension, the highest in the world, is safeguarded by the paramount principle that it must be for the best interests of the child that the mother should have the custody of it, and that she