

In 1959, 893 children attended lessons at seasonal schools. Obviously, these schools are only a second-best substitute for regular classes. Nevertheless, remembering that many children will continue to live in the north, it is perhaps wise that they should not lose contact with the mode of life pursued by their parents.

Fourth are the hospital-schools established at sanatoria. Because of the lengthy treatment required for tuberculosis every effort is made to prevent students from falling too far behind in their school work. In the past year there were 572 students attending hospital classes.

It is the policy of the Department to direct Indian children to secondary and vocational schools operated by the provincial authorities. As I mentioned, enrolment in high schools has more than trebled in the last decade. There is no doubt that the Indian Affairs Branch has succeeded in convincing the young Indians and their parents of the value of high school training. Fundamentally, it is a matter of economic necessity: if you do not have sufficient education you cannot choose your job - no matter whether you are Indian or not.

My Department is fully conscious of the need for more and better counselling of Indian students at the Grade 8 level. We have increased the regional educational staff in British Columbia and stationed officers throughout the province. The results of their guidance work is beginning to show in the increased interest and enrolment of Indians in provincial high schools. The Indian Affairs Branch is planning to extend this de-centralization of its education staff to all provinces within the next four years.

I firmly believe the Indian child has a bright future. No Indian need be deprived of an education and he can go just as far as he wishes or as his talent will allow him to go. The Federal Government pays tuition costs and, if necessary, a living allowance for Indians attending high school, vocational school, business college, teachers' college, university and nurses' training school. Naturally, the parents are expected to contribute as much as they can. Some do not need any assistance. But certainly no Indian is deprived of education because he cannot afford to continue his training. I was especially interested to learn recently of a young Indian girl from British Columbia who graduated in anthropology and is now the only woman counsellor for the John Howard-Society. Another Indian girl, a Mohawk from near Belleville (in Ontario), has just completed her M.A. in social work from the University of Toronto and is working with the Belleville Children's Aid Society.

Teachers

Those of you who inspect Indian schools know that both the number and professional qualifications of our teachers is improving year by year. In the last decade the number of teachers