

PART III INCOME MAINTENANCE

Family Allowances -- Children under 16 years of age who are resident in Canada are eligible for Family Allowances. The Allowances, which were established in 1945, are paid from general revenue by the Department of National Health and Welfare, involve no means test and are not considered as income for tax purposes. Allowances are paid at the monthly rate of \$6 for children under 10 years and \$8 for children 10 to 15 years of age.

Through the Department of Citizenship and Immigration the Federal Government also pays, on a monthly basis, an allowance of \$60 a year for each child under 16 years of age supported by an immigrant who has landed for permanent residence in Canada or by a Canadian returning to Canada to reside permanently. This allowance is paid for a period of one year, until the child is eligible for Family Allowance.

Old Age Security -- A pension of \$55 a month is paid by the Federal Government to all persons aged 70 or over who have been resident in Canada at least ten years. It is financed through a 2 per cent sales tax, a 2 per cent tax on net corporation income and, subject to a maximum limit of \$60 a year, a 2 per cent tax on individual net taxable incomes.

The Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan make supplementary payments to recipients of Old Age Security who qualify under a means and residence test. In Alberta the maximum supplement is \$15 per month, in British Columbia, \$20. In Saskatchewan \$2.50 per month is paid unconditionally and may be supplemented by an additional amount of up to \$7.50. In Ontario and Manitoba supplementary payments may be made by a municipality under special provisions of assistance legislation. In other provinces and the Yukon, recipients of the pension are eligible for public assistance on the same basis as other persons.

Old Age Assistance -- Assistance of up to \$55 a month is paid to needy persons aged 65 to 69 years who have been resident in Canada for at least ten years. The programme is financed jointly by the Federal and Provincial Governments and is administered by the latter. Total annual income, including the assistance, may not exceed \$960 for a single person, \$1,620 for a married couple, and \$1,980 for a married couple of whom one is blind.

In Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon, supplementary payments are made to recipients of old age assistance who qualify under a means and residence test.