

atmosphere of security and happiness with their families. The remainder do not enjoy this great privilege and advantage of living in a home.

The welfare of the first group is promoted in Canada through varied media of governmental measures designed to strengthen, support and assist the family, the social unit which is best suited to protect, care for and guide the child on to its adult life. These measures include social legislation; programmes for the economic protection of the family and financial assistance to it through family allowances, unemployment insurance, etc.; the organization of extensive health services at all levels of government; educational provisions for children such as free and compulsory schooling. Most of the programmes I have just mentioned are organized under public auspices. Mention should also be made of the important contributions by private or voluntary agencies to the welfare of Canadian families and children. There is no doubt that in Canada private initiative is responsible to a very large extent for the success that has been achieved so far in promoting the health, education and welfare of children.

Then, equal if not greater attention is devoted to the problem of improving the life of the child who, for one reason or another, cannot receive normal home care. It is realized that it is in the interest of society as a whole to ensure that these less fortunate children be given the opportunity to develop properly. In recent years, I have witnessed in my country the steady improvement in development of child care, adoptions and related services. However in Canada we never forget that the child still belongs to its parent. We work with the parent and through the parent bearing in mind