

which a moderate pay deduction is made. Teachers employed by the Branch participate in all Civil Service welfare benefits, and if they meet the requirements, may, after two years of satisfactory service, be classified as Civil Servants for superannuation purposes.

#### SOCIAL WELFARE

Welfare services and social benefits to meet the needs of dependent Indian individuals and families are provided by the Indian Affairs Branch, by other departments of government, and by private organizations.

Indians are paid Family Allowances, Old Age Security, Old Age Assistance, Disability and Blind Persons' Allowances, and, in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Mothers' Allowances are available to needy Indian mothers. A relief programme operated by the Branch provides assistance for those who do not qualify for allowances administered by the provinces, but whose circumstances are such that they are unable by their own efforts to maintain themselves and their families.

In matters pertaining to welfare of children, provincial legislation governing apprehension, guardianship, and adoption applies to dependent, delinquent, and neglected Indian children. Authority to take legal action to protect Indian children from neglect and abuse is within the jurisdiction of organizations established for this purpose in non-Indian communities. Branch participation in the child-welfare field includes assistance to parents in improving home conditions either directly or by payment for services of a child-caring organization, and payment of maintenance costs for foster-home and institutional care.

In the field of rehabilitation, programmes have been organized and others are being developed whereby handicapped Indians will be helped through training and selective placement towards the fullest utilization of their abilities. Special rehabilitation projects are being organized, particularly for ex-tuberculous young Indian men and women, to assist those wishing to do so to become established in non-Indian communities in employment that does not overtax their physical abilities.

The number of community projects being undertaken on reserves under the leadership of band councils in co-operation with other organized groups reflects a growing awareness among Indians of community needs and community responsibilities. Trends in this direction are encouraged and supported by the Indian Affairs Branch. Leadership training courses are conducted under Branch auspices, and Indians are helped to take part in similar types of programmes sponsored by other organizations. A number of organized groups are taking an active interest in the advancement of health, education, and welfare amongst Indians.

Indian homemakers' clubs, patterned on the Women's Institute, are established on many reserves. In addition to meeting socially and learning improved methods of homemaking, these groups of women take an active part in community life.

In the field of housing, financial assistance is provided for the construction of new houses and for repairs. This supplements rather than replaces the contributions of the Indians themselves, in the form of labour, materials and money, and the assistance available to them from their Indian Band Funds, Veterans' Land Act grants and other sources. In recent years, for every dollar contribution by the Indian Affairs administration there has been on average an equal contribution from the Indian householders and the