

community, a special flight is made. In addition, for more than thirty years the Eastern Arctic Patrol, which is described in the Booklet Transportation and Communications in the Northwest Territories, has taken care of the needs of the vast area of the Eastern Arctic. This is a major, mobile administrative part of the duties of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources in the active conduct of Eskimo affairs.

The Department of National Health and Welfare assumes general responsibility for the medical care of Eskimos. Nursing stations are maintained at Fort Chimo and Port Harrison in Quebec, and at Cape Dorset, Lake Harbour, Southampton Island, and Coppermine in the Northwest Territories. There are resident doctors at Pangnirtung, Chesterfield Inlet, and Aklavik, and the missions, under subsidies from the Department of National Health and Welfare, operate hospitals at these three places. Patients requiring prolonged treatment or surgery, particularly those suffering from tuberculosis, are taken to hospitals in the south.

At places where there are no hospitals or nursing stations, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, traders, missionaries, and others do what they can to care for the sick and injured, obtaining advice from the resident doctors by radio. Expenses entailed in treating such cases in the country, and the responsibility for the over-all rehabilitation of convalescent or incapacitated patients discharged from hospitals, are not assumed by the Department of National Health and Welfare. They are borne either by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources or, in some cases, by other organizations within the country.

The Department of Transport provides water transportation and radio communication, and operates radio and meteorological stations within the country. The Post Office arranges the mail services.

In addition to the various government departments, the Hudson Bay Company, a few small traders, Roman Catholic and Anglican missions, and United States and Canadian military personnel all play important parts in the Arctic and exercise a considerable influence over the Eskimo population.

With so many separate organizations interested in and dealing with Eskimos, differences of opinion on policy and procedure are bound to arise. In 1952, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources called a conference of representatives from all the varied groups with interest in the Eskimos. As a result of these deliberations, a permanent Eskimo Committee was set up, with a subcommittee on education. This provides the machinery for long-term planning for the Eskimos, who cannot be hurried, any more than anyone else, into making the most of their opportunities.

#### Family Allowances

Family Allowances were introduced among the Eskimo by 1948 and, although it is too early to tell what effect they are having, it is believed that they will be helpful in giving the children a good start in life.