

mothers may register for the day care of their children. The local committee collects information and reports to the provincial advisory committee concerning the needs of the community.

Ontario and Quebec signed agreements with the federal government in July and August, 1942, respectively. The province of Alberta was the third to sign in September, 1943.

Under the agreements, there are three types of day care provided for the children of women engaged in essential industry: The day nursery, the school project and the foster day care program.

Up to June, 1944, 28 day nurseries had been approved, most of them in Ontario and Quebec. These units are designed for pre-school children from two years of age to the age (usually six) at which a child begins school in his particular locality. There must be 20 or more such children requiring care in the particular locality before the local committee can set up a day nursery. A charge of 35 cents is made for the first child of a family plus 15 cents for each additional child. However, where the two parents are employed on an average wage basis, the fee is 50 cents a child.

Day nurseries operate at the convenience of the locality. Usually they open at 7.30 a.m. and do not close until 6 or 6.30 p.m. when the mothers can take their children home. During the day the children eat, sleep and play at regular hours under constant supervision. At each unit there is a full-time paid director or person in charge who has been adequately trained in nursery education, and a second full-time paid person adequately trained as an assistant. Additional personnel may be composed of voluntary workers recruited from women's voluntary services, church organizations, recreational and educational groups in the community.

The establishment and supervision of day nurseries is the primary concern of the local committee set up by the provincial advisory committee. The school project is the responsibility of the local public and separate school boards which receive applications for school care from the local offices of National Selective Service. The local board of education may establish a project in any school where, on the basis of the applications, there are at least 20 children requiring day care. A charge of 25 cents is made for the first child of a family plus 10 cents for each additional child.

The school project is designed to provide day care for school-age children during non-school hours (for example, 7.30 to 8.30 a.m., 12.10 to 1.10 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. during school days and from 7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and holidays when necessary). During these hours the children indulge in constructive recreational activities under qualified supervision. These include craft work, music, stories, games, drills and the like. Light lunches are served both in the morning and the afternoon in addition to the noon-day meal. Up to June, 1944, 33 school projects had been approved in Ontario and Quebec.

The actual operation of a school project is in the hands of a supervisor, usually the principal, who may appoint assistant supervisors from his teaching staff as the need arises. Teachers are, of course, paid for their additional work in connection with the school project. If necessary, qualified supervisors may be hired by the school board.

In establishing foster day care programs, the local committees make use of the facilities of the local Children's Aid Society. This type of program is designed to provide day care for such children as neither the day nursery nor the school project can accommodate (for example, children with physical or mental handicaps or highly nervous children). At present there is no public demand for foster day care, and no such programs have been established.