

exceeds the amount or value of contributions for such purpose made by any other individual or individuals.

(2) A parent shall be deemed not to cease to maintain a child who is attending school or receiving equivalent training, only by reason of such child being partially employed or engaged in work unless the earnings received therefor exceed, on an average, the sum of \$35 a month.

(3) A parent shall be deemed to cease to maintain a child who is not attending school or receiving equivalent training and who is fully or partially employed or engaged in work for which he receives a salary or wages.

Mr. COCKERAM: I understand that Indians and Eskimos are not paid the allowance in cash but in kind. Has the minister the scale showing what is issued in lieu of the allowance to Indians and Eskimos?

Mr. McCANN: The amount of money which is paid in respect of Indian children is the same as is paid for white children. The Indian affairs branch has a list of articles and food-stuffs which may be purchased with the money. With reference to food, they are guided by the formula which has been set up with respect to nutritional values.

Mr. COCKERAM: Is it not right that children of Indians and Eskimos are not entitled to the allowance in cash but rather in kind? Would the minister give the committee the scale of rations, food and clothing, which the parents receive in lieu of cash.

Mr. McCANN: I am informed that at least half the Indians are paid in cash. For the other half the money is paid to the Indian agent, and the parents of the Indian child are given a credit and a list of articles which they may purchase against that credit. The list is one designed to satisfy normal requirements, and nutritional values are taken into account with respect to foods.

Mr. COCKERAM: As I understand it, and I travel occasionally in the north country, there is not any question of giving cash to a great many of these Indians.

Mr. McCANN: Fifty per cent of them get cash.

Mr. COCKERAM: Some bands do get cash? My understanding was that they all went to the Indian agent and he supplied them with beans and rice and various items of food and clothing which they might require. I wondered whether the minister could give us the scale of issue in lieu of money for those bands which do take the allowance in kind, and why there is any distinction, that some should be paid in cash and some should be paid in kind.

Mr. McCANN: As I have said, almost fifty per cent do receive cash. The reason others do not receive cash is that there is among Indians, as among other people, a difference in intelligence, and there would not be much point in sending a cheque to people who could not get it cashed, so that they are given a credit which enables them to purchase whatever articles they need. Does that answer the hon. member's question?

Mr. COCKERAM: Yes. I agree with the principle of giving the allowance in kind to Indians, certainly in a great many parts of Canada, but the reason for the differentiation must be known to the Department of Mines and Resources, and I wondered what it was.

Mrs. STRUM: Has the minister considered extending this grant to cover the period of education other than in the public school? It seems to me that, while education is, of course, a provincial matter, we have connected the administration of this with the school term. We start with compulsory education and we end with compulsory education. It seems to me that we might extend that to cover the life of the child through the secondary school, because, as I have said before in this chamber, that is when the child really become expensive to maintain; school books must be purchased; very often there are tuition fees to pay, and it may be necessary to provide for boarding the child away from home. It seems to me that under this bill the provision might be extended to cover the secondary school as well as the primary school.

Mr. McCANN: That is a matter to which consideration might be given. But the act has been in effect for only about a year, and we do not contemplate any great changes until we have reviewed our experience in that period. I might point out that, as regards most provinces, the mothers allowance act provides for the age of sixteen years as we have it in this bill.

Section agreed to.

On section 2.

Mr. FLEMING: In connection with payments to children's aid societies and other institutions of that kind, when the estimates of the Department of National Health and Welfare were under review in committee of supply some weeks ago I drew the attention of the minister and the committee to the fact that complaints have been received from some of the leading children's aid societies about the great cost of bookkeeping which has been imposed upon them by reason of their being