EDUCATION

In Canada, education is generally under the jurisdiction of the provinces, but education of Indians is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

The educational programme is carried out through the operation of schools for Indian children. A number are also educated in non-Indian schools under provincial or private auspices, the cost of tuition then being assumed by the Federal Government.

In order to provide educational facilities for children who cannot attend school in association with other groups and to meet particular problems, the Government has established four types of schools.

On the majority of reserves, day schools are established to provide an education for children who can attend from their homes.

Residential or boarding schools are operated, under the auspices of various religious denominations, to care for orphaned children, children from broken homes or those who, because of isolation or the migratory way of life of their families, are unable to attend day schools.

Neither of these schools adequately serve the migratory population, particularly in the far north. In order to meet the unusual problems presented by these groups, seasonal schools have been established at places where migratory families gather during the year. The schools serving the Indians of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon are operated by the Northern Administration and Lands Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

A fourth type is designed to meet the needs of children confined to hospitals. Teachers are employed to give instruction to children in the hospitals operated under the jurisdiction of the Directorate of Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Arrangements are also made for the education of Indians in other hospitals and in sanatoria. Such instruction is not restricted to Indians of school age and an effort is made to give training to both children of pre-school age and adults.

Wherever possible, education of Indian children in association with non-Indians is encouraged, and the Indian Affairs Branch has entered into agreements with provincial authorities for such joint education. These agreements may include provision for grants for capital expenditures for facilities required by the admission of Indian children.

TEACHERS

In common with other schools throughout Canada, Indian schools are experiencing much difficulty in securing enough qualified teachers. Indian boys and girls are encouraged, through financial assistance, to enter the teaching profession to serve their own people.

Teachers engaged by the Indian Affairs Branch enjoy a uniform salary schedule that compares favourably with those in effect in the provincial schools across Canada. When engaged in the Indian day schools, most teachers receive furnished and heated quarters for