

Unemployment - Unemployment resulting from shifts in demand in the economy and in certain seasonal industries can be particularly serious in one-industry centres, and is most acute among the least educated and unskilled. The majority of the labour force is covered by a federally-administered contributory unemployment insurance programme. Persons who are not covered by the programme and those whose benefits have expired or are inadequate may receive assistance under provincial or municipal social assistance programmes. Training and retraining programmes are receiving increasing emphasis through the federal Department of Manpower and Immigration in co-operation with provincial departments of education.

Disability - Income protection and rehabilitation services are provided for persons with physical or mental disabilities under a number of programmes. Under the Canada and Quebec pension plans, pensions will be available from May 1970 to disabled contributors who qualify. Supplementary disability benefits are available under these plans to disabled survivors.

Compensation for disability or injury arising out of employment provided in all provinces includes all necessary medical care and hospitalization, and in case of death, a pension to widows and any dependent children. Pensions are provided by the Federal Government for disabled war veterans and for certain civilians in specified occupations in war areas during the two world wars. Assistance is available to blind and disabled persons with little or no income from other sources through the blind persons allowances programme and the disabled persons allowances programme; both of these programmes are now being discontinued and the administration of aid to these groups is being transferred to the general assistance programme.

A wide range of services for the rehabilitation of the handicapped is provided by both public and voluntary agencies. These include the successful programme to rehabilitate disabled war veterans which is conducted by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, the provincially-operated and federally-assisted vocational training programmes, and the variety of other provincial services including counselling, educational programmes for deaf and blind children, and facilities for other handicapped children and adults. A number of national and local voluntary agencies supplement the work of the public agencies; among their services are those on behalf of specific disability groups and the specialized services such as co-ordinated home care programmes and sheltered work shops.

Costs of child-rearing - In recognition of the costs involved in child-rearing, the Federal Government pays a universal family allowance of \$6 a month for children under ten years of age and \$8 a month for children from ten to 16 years of age. Youth allowances of \$10 a month are paid on behalf of young persons 16 and 17 years of age attending school or unable to do so because of disability. The latter programme is not federally-administered in Quebec, which has its own schooling allowances programme.

Widowhood and orphanhood - Economic protection is provided to widows and orphans under contributory and assistance programmes. Survivors' benefits are payable under the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans, under workmen's compensation programmes, and under veterans' pension and allowances programmes. Widows and mothers with dependent children who meet the eligibility requirements of need may receive assistance under provincial social assistance programmes, which may, if necessary, supplement benefits under other programmes.