PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Annual Report of

The Social Welfare Branch

of the Department of

Health and Welfare

for the Year Ended March 31st

1958

Printed by Don McDiarmid, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
in right of the Province of British Columbia.
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VICTORIA, B.C., December 10th, 1958.

To His Honour FRANK MACKENZIE ROSS, C.M.G., M.C., LL.D.,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Annual Report of the Social Welfare Branch of the Department of Health and Welfare for the year ended March 31st, 1958, is herewith respectfully submitted.

ERIC MARTIN,
Minister of Health and Welfare.

Office of the Minister of Health and Welfare,
Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.

SOCIAL WELFARE BRANCH,
VICTORIA, B.C., December 10th, 1958.

The Honourable E. C. F. Martin,
Minister of Health and Welfare, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Social Welfare Branch for the year ended March 31st, 1958.

E. R. RICKINSON,
Deputy Minister of Welfare.

SOCIAL WELFARE BRANCH,
VICTORIA, B.C., December 10th, 1958.

E. R. Rickinson, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Welfare.

SIR,—I submit herewith the Report of the Social Welfare Branch for the year ended March 31st, 1958.

J. A. SADLER,
Director of Welfare.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
(SOCIAL WELFARE BRANCH)

April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

Hon. ERIC MARTIN	*Minister of Health and Welfare.*

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

E. R. RICKINSON	*Deputy Minister.*
J. A. SADLER	*Director of Welfare.*
Miss AMY LEIGH	*Assistant Director of Welfare.*
J. MCDIARMID	*Departmental Comptroller.*
Miss MARIE RIDDELL	*Provincial Supervisor, Family Division.*
Miss RUBY MCKAY	*Superintendent of Child Welfare.*
E. W. BERRY	*Chairman, Old-age Assistance and Blind Persons' and Disabled Persons' Allowances Board, and Supplementary Assistance.*
Dr. G. E. WAKEFIELD	*Director of Medical Services.*
Mrs. E. L. PAGE	*Chief Inspector of Welfare Institutions.*
Miss E. S. WYNESS	*Provincial Supervisor, Social Service Department, Divisions of Tuberculosis Control and Venereal Disease Control.*
F. G. HASSARD	*Superintendent, Brannen Lake School for Boys.*
Miss W. M. URQUHART	*Superintendent, Girls' Industrial School.*
G. P. WILLIE	*Superintendent, Provincial Home.*
E. L. RIMMER	*Administrator, Region I.*
R. TALBOT	*Administrator, Region II.*
R. I. STRINGER	*Administrator, Region III.*
R. J. BURNHAM	*Administrator, Region IV.*
V. H. DALLAMORE	*Administrator, Region V.*
Miss M. K. KING	*Administrator, Region VI.*
W. H. CROSSLEY	*Administrator, Region VII.*

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Report of the Social Welfare Branch

PART I.—GENERAL AND REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL

In view of the rapidly growing population of the Province with the resulting constantly increasing demands for welfare services, it seems wise at this time to review briefly the organization of the Social Welfare Branch.

In 1946 the health and welfare administrations were amalgamated into the Department of Health and Welfare under the Minister of Health and Welfare, and a Deputy Minister of Health and a Deputy Minister of Welfare were placed in charge of the Public Health Branch and the Social Welfare Branch respectively.

The Social Welfare Branch is organized on a functional basis with a senior administration consisting of Deputy Minister, Director of Welfare, and Assistant Director of Welfare.

Specific legislative responsibilities are handled by divisional heads, such as Old Age, Child Welfare, and Welfare Institutions Licensing. To provide the services under the welfare legislation with efficiency and flexibility, a policy of decentralization of administration and supervision is used. The Province is divided into seven regions, with a regional administrator in charge of each region. The offices within the regions, whether municipal or Provincial, render welfare services as provided by legislation through the social workers, who deal directly with the persons requesting help with their problems.

The following tables show, on a comparative basis, case loads, changes in case loads, and the number of recipients.

TABLE I

It is interesting to note in this table that the Family Service, Old-age Assistance, Health and Institutional case loads have decreased as a percentage of the total case load, whereas the Disabled and Child Welfare cases have increased on a percentage basis during the three-year period. The increase of Social Allowances cases in 1958, as compared with 1957, reflects the increasing unemployment in 1958.

Table I.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories as at March 31st for the Years 1956, 1957, and 1958

Category	1956		1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total for Province	62,764	100.0	60,383	100.0	61,783	100.0
Family Service	1,640	2.6	1,443	2.4	1,296	2.1
Social Allowance	11,610	18.5	9,537	15.8	10,658	17.3
Blind Persons' Allowance[1]	451	0.7	661	1.1	671	1.1
Old-age Assistance[1]	8,853	14.1	8,302	13.8	8,385	13.6
Old Age Security supplementary assistance[1]	32,494	51.8	32,865	54.4	32,761	53.0
Disabled Persons' Allowance[1]	959	1.5	1,203	2.0	1,453	2.4
Child Welfare	5,669	9.0	5,656	9.4	5,896	9.5
Health and Institutional	1,008	1.7	716	1.2	663	1.1

[1] Includes Old-age Assistance Board figures which are not shown in regional reports.

TABLE II

The highlight of this table is the indication of the constant change in case load, with the resulting demands on staff time.

Table II.—Movement in Case Load during Fiscal Year 1957/58

Major Category of Service	Cases Opened during Year[1]		Cases Closed during Year	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	2,376	5.3	2,640	5.8
Social Allowance	14,821	33.0	14,085	31.1
Blind Persons' Allowance	369	0.8	408	0.9
Disabled Persons' Allowance	851	1.9	633	1.4
Old-age Assistance	6,042	13.5	6,181	13.7
Old Age Security supplementary assistance	12,624	28.1	13,214	29.2
Child Welfare	6,939	15.4	7,116	15.7
Health and Institutional	884	2.0	969	2.2
Total for Province	44,906	100.0	45,246	100.0

[1] Includes new, reopened, and transferred cases.

TABLE III

This table shows that the total case load has decreased steadily as a percentage of population from 1956 to 1958, although the absolute case load has increased by approximately 1,400 from 1957 to 1958. The steady increase in population in our Province is responsible for the numerical increase in the number of people being helped, although the percentage of people needing such help in our population has fallen.

Table III.—Number of Recipients by Category as a Percentage of Population as at March 31st for the Years 1956, 1957, and 1958

Category	1956		1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent of Population (1,342,000)	Number	Per Cent of Population (1,398,464)	Number	Per Cent of Population (1,487,000)
Total for Province	62,764	4.7	60,383	4.3	61,783	4.2
Family Service	1,640	0.1	1,443	0.1	1,296	0.1
Social Allowance	11,610	0.9	9,537	0.7	10,658	0.7
Blind Persons' Allowance[1]	451	0.1	661	0.1	671	0.1
Old-age Assistance[1]	8,853	0.7	8,302	0.6	8,385	0.6
Old Age Security supplementary assistance[1]	32,494	2.4	32,865	2.4	32,761	2.2
Disabled Persons' Allowance[1]	959	0.1	1,203	0.1	1,453	0.1
Child Welfare	5,669	0.4	5,656	0.4	5,896	0.4
Health and Institutional	1,088	0.1	716	0.1	663	0.1

[1] Includes Old-age-Assistance Board figures which are not shown in regional reports.

The continued co-operation received from officials of the municipalities, private agencies, and many other organizations has been appreciated by the staff of this Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. SADLER,
Director of Welfare.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WELFARE

The annual report of the Assistant Director of Welfare from April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, is herewith submitted. Miss Amy Leigh, Assistant Director of Welfare for the period of time covered by this report, retired on July 1st, 1958, and, therefore, this account will of necessity be brief because it describes an aspect of the administration of the Branch in which this writer did not participate during the year under review.

The office of the Assistant Director of Welfare has been, as always, concerned with the monumental task of recruiting, training, and maintaining of staff, aided by the Supervisor of the Training Division.

As has been stated in the past, the quality and quantity of the service which the Branch can give is related directly to the number of staff available to us, as well as the quality of those persons employed and their knowledge, skill, and experience. This is especially true of the social-work staff, but they would be hampered indeed in their work if they were not ably supported by clerical staff who ensure that the mechanics and procedures are competently handled. This is equally true of the office of the Assistant Director of Welfare as in any district or regional office.

This office is not only responsible for maintaining good personnel practices within those prescribed by the Civil Service Commission, but must be aware of the needs of the staff to increase their knowledge and to progress in their skills and find satisfaction in their work, and endeavour to meet those needs.

Only in this way can a happy and stable staff be maintained, and a loyalty inspired which even under inordinate pressures enables the staff members to meet the demands for service made upon them. The divisional and regional reports which follow will show the volume of work and the multitude of services given in the past year.

In order to keep attuned to the problems and needs of the staff, the Assistant Director of Welfare should visit the field, institutions, and divisions as often as seems advisable. Six such visits were made in the fiscal year under review.

The following table shows the number of all staff (clerical, professional, and technical) comprising the Branch as at March 31st, 1958:—

Office of Deputy Minister	2
Director of Welfare	4
Field Service	297
Medical Services Division	12
Child Welfare Division	19
Provincial Home	35
Brannen Lake School for Boys	65
Girls' Industrial School	32
Old-age Assistance Board	77
Family Division	6
Total	549

The following table gives the total social-work staff employed for the fiscal years ended March 31st, 1957, and March 31st, 1958:—

	University Trained	In-service Trained	Total
Total staff, March 31st, 1957	109	112	221
Completed formal training during fiscal year	+3	—3	.....
	112	109	221
Staff appointed April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958	8	44	52
	120	153	273
Resignations, April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958	27	32	59
Total staff as at March 31st, 1958	93	121	214

To the above total should be added the superintendents and social workers with professional training at the Brannen Lake School for Boys and the Girls' Industrial School—namely 7, or a total of 221. This figure should not be compared with the total of 221 last year, which did not include the staff of the two correctional institutions. These seven persons are not included in the Field Services establishment, but in the staff establishment of their respective institutions.

The following table gives a breakdown of the total staff performing professional services, according to their qualifications, as at March 31st, 1958.

	Men	Women	Total
Master of Social Work	9	9	18
Two years' professional training lacking completion of M.S.W. thesis	3	1	4
Bachelor of Social Work	11	27	38
Social Service diploma	3	23	26
One year at School but no diploma or degree	5	5	10
Two years at School but no diploma or degree	----	1	1
In-service trainees now enrolled at School on educational leave	3	3	6
In-service trained	36	79	115
Totals	70	148	218
Divisional Administrators	----	----	2
Director of Medical Services	----	----	1
Total	----	----	221

Of the six persons granted educational leave to attend the School of Social Work at the University of British Columbia, four were granted Branch bursaries. While these bursaries by no means meet the total cost of an academic year, they do serve to supplement the personal resources of the individual applicant. Two other members of the staff were granted educational leave, one to obtain the degree of Master of Social Work and one for further general academic education.

During the course of the year a total of seventy-six persons were given in-service training in five introductory and four final group sessions.

The annual District Supervisors' meeting was held in Victoria to discuss topics and problems of mutual concern and interest to the whole Branch. This annual event is of infinite benefit to all attending.

The Branch was able to be represented at seven conferences and institutes related to social welfare, and thirteen delegates attended. Participation in such conferences and institutes is an integral part of the staff-development programme. Additional proof of the desire to participate is the number of staff members who also attend at their own expense, being granted only leave with pay or even attending in their holidays.

An experiment was tried this year in the planning of annual regional staff meetings. Two such meetings were held—one in early September when the staff of Regions III and IV met together, and in late September when the staff of Regions V and VI joined. On both occasions, members of administration and divisional heads attended.

The Girls' Industrial School Committee, under the chairmanship of the Assistant Director of Welfare, continued to meet and plan for the new School. Five such meetings were held.

On behalf of the previous Assistant Director of Welfare, Miss Amy Leigh, I wish to express, as I am sure she would have, appreciation of the spirit of co-operation between administration and the staff, whose steadfastness of purpose and supreme efforts enabled the Branch to fufil its sole function, which is to bring service and help to those in want or distressed because of problems which they cannot resolve for themselves.

(Miss) MARIE RIDDELL,
Assistant Director of Welfare.

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION

REGION I

I submit herewith the annual report for the year 1957/58 and place on the record once again a résumé of another year of activity of welfare services in this region.

Region I comprises Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and a small section of the Mainland contiguous to the Johnstone and Queen Charlotte Straits. According to estimated figures, the population for the region approximates 245,000 persons, with a land area of roughly 13,000 square miles. About half of the population live in the southerly part—Greater Victoria area, Duncan, Nanaimo, etc.

The welfare staff consists of thirty-two field workers, with four supervisors, two municipal administrators, and one regional administrator.

Hereunder are shown three tables as at March 31st, 1958:—

Table I.—Administrative Offices with Distribution of Case Load by Category of Services

Category	Alberni	Courtenay	Duncan	Nanaimo	Saanich	Victoria City	Victoria District	Total
Family Service	19	32	28	46	.....	6	34	165
Social Allowance	105	182	137	336	117	532	179	1,588
Blind Persons' Allowance	3	7	9	10	12	37	12	90
Old-age Assistance	107	136	125	196	153	442	158	1,317
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	327	522	453	1,004	937	2,121	1,053	6,417
Disabled Persons' Allowance	13	23	12	37	31	76	43	235
Child Welfare	138	218	149	187	.....	.....	102	794
Health and Institutional	18	13	20	17	37	43	34	182
Totals	730	1,133	933	1,833	1,287	3,257	1,615	10,788

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region I for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	229	2.2	165	1.5
Social Allowance	1,388	13.2	1,588	14.7
Blind Persons' Allowance	81	0.8	90	0.8
Old-age Assistance	1,243	11.8	1,317	12.2
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	6,473	61.5	6,417	59.5
Disabled Persons' Allowance	165	1.7	235	2.2
Child Welfare	779	7.4	794	7.4
Health and Institutional	161	1.5	182	1.6
Totals	10,519	100.0	10,788	100.0

Table III.—Analysis of Case Load and Populations in Each Municipality

Area	Population 1956 Census	Welfare Services		
		Per Capita Plan	Amalgamated Plan	Welfare Case Load
City of Alberni	3,947	×	.....	141
City of Port Alberni	10,373	×	.....	279
Municipality of Central Saanich	2,477	×	.....	97
City of Courtenay	3,025	×	.....	113
City of Duncan	3,247	×	.....	168
Municipality of Esquimalt	10,384	×	.....	276
City of Nanaimo	12,705	×	.....	700
Municipality of North Cowichan	7,781	×	.....	291
Municipality of Oak Bay	14,857	×	.....	184
Municipality of Saanich	38,358	×	×	1,287
City of Victoria	54,584	×	×	3,257
Village of Campbell River	3,069	.....	.....	.....
Village of Cumberland	1,039	.....	.....	.....
Village of Ladysmith	2,107	.....	.....	.....
Village of Lake Cowichan	1,949	.....	.....	.....
Village of Qualicum	726	.....	.....	.....
Village of Alert Bay	895	.....	.....	.....
Village of Comox	1,151	.....	.....	.....
Village of Parksville	1,112	.....	.....	.....
Village of Sidney	1,371	.....	.....	.....
Village of Tofino	389	.....	.....	.....
Village of Ucluelet	520	.....	.....	.....
Village of Zeballos	154	.....	.....	.....

Case load in organized territory	6,793
Case load in unorganized territory	3,995
Total case load for region	10,788

During the year immediately past, changes in welfare administration and costs have affected the Government, as some of its municipalities were altered. The new legislation (" Municipal Act ") relieved five municipalities in this region of their participation in welfare costs. This applies both to administration costs and shareability of costs by direct assistance to destitute persons in their areas as under the " Residence and Responsibility Act." The five municipalities where a change took place are as follows: Campbell River, Qualicum Beach, Lake Cowichan, City of Ladysmith, and City of Cumberland.

The first three of the above-named municipalities were relieved of welfare costs by direct legislation and the two city municipalities by vote of the owner-electors. This has brought additional costs to the region and added clerical work to each Provincial welfare administrative office.

At the close of the fiscal year, records show that in this region fourteen nursing homes and thirty-six boarding homes were operating. The monthly rates for maintenance of welfare cases in these establishments were increased during the year 1957 as follows: Nursing-home maximum rate to $165 and boarding-home rate to $75.

Civil defence exercises were held during the year—two exercises at Provincial headquarters in Victoria and two in the outside area, one in Nanaimo and one at Alberni.

Industrial disputes affected the economy of the region, with the strike of the pulp-mill workers, which was closely followed by a strike of the electrical workers.

The weather in the summer of 1957 was on the cool side, which affected the tourist trade. This was offset by continuous operation, due to suitable weather, for the logging and lumbering operations.

In conclusion, may I thank my members of the Branch in this region for their conscientious endeavour to meet the needs in their areas and for their co-operation with myself as their administrator; also, I would like to acknowledge the co-operation given by the other agencies, private and voluntary, who have been very helpful.

Respectfully submitted.

E. L. RIMMER,
Regional Administrator.

REGION II

I beg to submit the following report of the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region II for the fiscal year 1957/58.

In June of 1957 the boundaries of Region II were extended to include the areas of Prince Rupert, Terrace, and Kitimat. This was to be a temporary arrangement while details concerning a new region were being finalized. The transfer of these areas to the new Region VII was effective November 1st, 1957. During the period June to October, 1957, the Regional Administrator made several trips to Prince Rupert, Terrace, and Kitimat.

The existing offices as of March 31st, 1958, are as follows:—

Amalgamated offices (municipal offices under the charge of municipal administrators): Burnaby, District of Coquitlam, New Westminster City, City and District of North Vancouver, Richmond, Vancouver City, and West Vancouver.

District offices (Social Welfare Branch offices under the charge of district supervisors and serving unorganized areas and *per capita* municipalities): New Westminster district office, serving unorganized areas and the Municipalities of Delta, Fraser Mills, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody; Vancouver district office, serving unorganized areas of University of British Columbia Endowment Lands, Howe Sound, Cheakamus Valley, Sechelt Peninsula, Ocean Falls, and surrounding coast; Westview district office, serving the District of Powell River and surrounding area.

Unemployment became a factor during the year, and provision was made under the Federal Unemployment Assistance Act, as amended in 1957, to assist unemployed employable persons who had exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits. Vancouver City reflected quite dramatically the increase in need in this area. In August, 1957, twenty-one applicants were assisted to the extent of $690.50. By December, 1957, this had risen to 641 persons, at an expenditure of $25,636.36 for the month. There was a slight falling off in January, 1958, but during March, 1958, 565 persons were assisted, at a cost of $27,925.65, the increased *per capita* cost being indicative of the slowly depleting resources of individuals because of the more protracted period of unemployment.

The following tables show the distribution of case load in various categories. Table I shows the breakdown of cases carried by district and municipal offices, while Table II shows the numerical and percentage comparisons for the years 1957 and 1958 for the whole of Region II. It should be pointed out that the City Social Service Department in Vancouver does not carry child and family welfare cases, this work being done by the children's aid societies.

Table I.—Cases Carried by District and Municipal Offices

Category	Burnaby	Coquitlam	New Westminster City	New Westminster District	North Vancouver	Richmond	Vancouver City	Vancouver District	West Vancouver	Westview	Total
Family Service	34	16	42	25	17	19	.....	49	14	90	306
Social Allowance	335	103	252	141	156	115	2,641	73	37	65	3,918
Blind Persons' Allowance	33	4	18	4	13	4	192	3	5	3	279
Old-age Assistance	467	55	186	106	143	76	2,330	110	64	28	3,565
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	2,233	265	834	484	876	444	9,287	395	304	178	15,300
Disabled Persons' Allowance	66	18	26	17	28	33	368	12	12	11	591
Child Welfare	379	135	114	126	111	110	.....	356	31	95	1,457
Health and Institutional	43	.....	16	8	26	15	.....	26	15	24	173
Totals	3,590	596	1,488	911	1,370	816	14,818	1,024	482	494	25,589

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	335	1.3	305	1.2
Social Allowance	3,570	14.1	3,918	15.3
Blind Persons' Allowance	286	1.1	279	1.1
Old-age Assistance	3,629	14.3	3,565	13.9
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	15,525	61.3	15,300	59.8
Disabled Persons' Allowance	519	2.0	591	2.3
Child Welfare	1,311	5.2	1,457	5.7
Health and Institutional	167	0.7	173	0.7
Totals	25,342	100.0	25,589	100.0

On behalf of Mr. R. Talbot, previous Administrator of this region during the period covered by this report, I wish to take this opportunity to express appreciation of the co-operation received from private agencies, community organizations, government departments at the Federal, Provincial, and municipal levels, and to the staff of the Social Welfare Branch in Region II for their devotion to duty.

Respectfully submitted.

H. E. BLANCHARD,
Regional Administrator.

REGION III

I beg to submit the following report on the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region III for the fiscal year 1957/58.

This region is a far-flung one, comprising many types of areas—from the narrow, wooded North Thompson Valley to the wide, rolling cattle country of the Nicola Valley, to the mountainous country of the Revelstoke area, to the orchard country and semi-desert country of the Okanagan.

The Kamloops district office serves the most widespread section of the region, and it may be necessary at a later date to open another office in one of the centres west of Kamloops so as to save the amount of travelling at present necessary. At the present time, three of the five workers in the Kamloops office are required to be away in their districts a week at a time. The main roads in this region have been improved considerably in recent years, but there is still much hazardous and difficult driving off the main highways. One social worker travels a total of two and one-half days in order to spend two and one-half days in his district.

There were no changes in regional boundaries during the year under review. The region is bounded on the south by the International Border, on the north by Wells Gray Park, on the east by Revelstoke and district, on the west by Bralorne, and includes the Cities of Kamloops, Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton. These four cities each employ their own welfare administrator, who administers the social assistance services within the boundaries of each city, the Social Welfare Branch providing the balance of the services. We also provided all social welfare services for the following municipalities: Armstrong, Enderby, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, Oliver, Peachland, Princeton, Merritt, Spallumcheen, North Kamloops, Coldstream, and Glenmore, these services being paid for by the municipalities concerned on a *per capita* basis. On July 1st, 1957, the Provincial Government relieved the Villages of North Kamloops, Oliver, and Princeton of responsibility for all welfare costs. These responsibilities were assumed by the Government and are administered from the local office of the Social Welfare Branch. On January 1st, 1957, the City

of Merritt reverted to village status and was also relieved of all responsibility for social welfare services.

Various community resources have greatly assisted our staff in carrying out their responsibilities. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the many organizations, too numerous to list, who have worked in such close harmony with their district social worker for the welfare of citizens of the community. It is regretted that no organization or community has felt able to create and administer a private hospital. This type of care for the senior citizens of this region is not available within the region, and, as a result, persons needing chronic bed care must be sent to other parts of the Province. The resources for boarding-home care continue to be adequate, and during the year two new boarding homes were established.

This region has a mixed economy, and for this reason has not in the past been subject to the same economic fluctuations as is sometimes found in other parts of the Province. However, during the year under review there has been a definite tightening of the economy. This is indicated in the amount of assistance given to unemployed employable persons, which was almost three times as great as the previous year. This has had some affect on the time available to spend on the other categories of our work. There was also a noticeable increase in transient workers, something which had not affected our work in other years. The early part of 1958 indicated a greater slowness in employment possibilities, and those who would in previous years have been employed for a sufficient period of time to qualify for unemployment insurance sometimes had not been able to get sufficient seasonal employment to qualify. It is anticipated that the load of assisting the unemployed employables will be greater in the fall and winter of 1958, as it is evident that there are a considerable number of persons who have not worked long enough to qualify for unemployment insurance this coming winter, even under the more liberal eligibility requirements. In addition, many persons have worked part of the year in non-insurable employment in the agricultural industry and have not been able to supplement their earnings through other employment during the balance of the year. In addition to those persons who do not qualify for unemployment insurance, there has been an increasing number of requests where the bread-winner has qualified for unemployment insurance but where they have found insurance payments inadequate for the maintenance of large families.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region III, as at March 31st, 1958

Category	Kamloops	Kelowna	Penticton	Oliver	Salmon Arm	Vernon	Kamloops City	Kelowna City	Penticton City	Vernon City	Totals
Family Service	101	25	69	15	11	30	.....	.....	...		251
Social Allowance	348	104	113	61	126	182	159	61	98	74	1,326
Blind Persons' Allowance	19	9	9	4	9	10	3	10	3	5	81
Old-age Assistance	180	87	95	43	90	126	36	81	54	100	892
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	554	330	331	150	315	385	210	337	300	322	3,234
Disabled Persons' Allowance	20	31	26	8	13	23	5	26	13	19	184
Child Welfare	339	123	223	47	84	212	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,028
Health and Institutional	21	8	19	2	11	13	.....	5	8	.....	87
Totals	1,582	717	885	330	659	981	413	520	476	520	7,083

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories for Region III for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	272	3.9	251	3.5
Social Allowance	1,198	17.2	1,326	18.7
Blind Persons' Allowance	71	1.0	81	1.1
Old-age Assistance	922	13.2	892	12.6
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	3,175	45.6	3,234	45.7
Disabled Persons' Allowance	157	2.3	184	2.6
Child Welfare	1,053	15.1	1,028	14.5
Health and Institutional	116	1.7	87	1.2
Totals	6,964	100.0	7,083	100.0

Respectfully submitted.

R. I. STRINGER,
Regional Administrator.

REGION IV

I submit herewith the annual report on the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region IV for the fiscal year 1957/58.

There have been no changes in the geographical boundaries of the region during the year nor were there any new offices opened. The population of this area continues to show an increase which, although not as great as the percentage increase throughout British Columbia, is comparable to the percentage increase experienced in Canada as a whole. Present population estimate for this region is 107,800.

There are seven Provincial and one municipal office in this area. Trail City administers its own welfare programme, while our seven Provincial offices provide the services for ten other municipalities. Trail City has a population of under 15,000, and it will likely be their desire to request the Social Welfare Branch to undertake social work within their boundaries commencing April 1st, 1959.

The City of Kaslo has been seriously considering reverting to a village for some months, but as yet has taken no definite steps in that direction. Slocan City is definitely taking steps to revert to a village to save itself the cost of welfare services.

The economy in this region received a rather serious set-back during the year with the closing of one of the coal mines in the Fernie area. This resulted in approximately 150 men working for the mining company losing their jobs, and this in turn had an immediate effect in all areas of business in Fernie. This did not, however, result in a large number of people moving out of the area as was first expected, and gradually, as new jobs were found, the immediate detrimental effects of the mine closure were being overcome.

There is an ever-increasing demand for more nursing and boarding facilities for older people, and a number of communities are making efforts to meet this need. Kimberley is planning on an extension of its present old people's residence. Cranbrook is building a new Dr. Green Memorial Home, which will provide boarding care for its older citizens, and has plans for new and larger quarters. Mount St. Francis, in Nelson, continues to be our most used resource for nursing cases in this region, but there is an ever-present waiting-list of people desiring admission.

During this year the Social Welfare Branch has received the fullest co-operation from municipal staffs as well as service clubs and other organizations throughout the district, and their kind assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region IV as at March 31st, 1958

Category	Cranbrook	Creston	Fernie	Grand Forks	Nelson	New Denver	Trail	Trail Municipality	Total
Family Service	44	23	4	11	30	6	18	7	143
Social Allowance	186	105	60	71	347	49	85	53	956
Blind Persons' Allowance	5	3	4	8	15	1	4	2	42
Old-age Assistance	93	72	44	106	175	35	39	28	592
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	366	220	203	283	744	185	193	136	2,330
Disabled Persons' Allowance	19	21	15	18	20	3	20	11	127
Child Welfare	156	84	39	31	115	41	76	48	590
Health and Institutional	19	7	5	2	23	2	14	5	77
Totals	888	535	374	530	1,469	322	449	290	4,857

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region IV for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	167	3.5	143	2.9
Social Allowance	891	18.6	956	19.7
Blind Persons' Allowance	52	1.1	42	0.9
Old-age Assistance	582	12.2	592	12.2
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	2,339	48.9	2,330	48.0
Disabled Persons' Allowance	107	2.2	127	2.6
Child Welfare	554	11.6	590	12.1
Health and Institutional	88	1.8	77	1.6
Totals	4,780	100.0	4,857	100.0

Respectfully submitted.

R. J. BURNHAM,
Regional Administrator.

REGION V

I beg to submit the following annual report of the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region V for the fiscal year 1957/58.

Region V extends for some 600 miles of the 750 miles lying between the northern boundary and the southern boundary of the Province of British Columbia. On the northern end it includes the entire length of the British Columbia-Yukon border, and in the southernmost portion it extends approximately 200 miles from the Alberta boundary. Its land area is more than half of the entire Province, and it extends into three time zones—Mountain, Pacific, and Yukon. The population of Region V is estimated at approximately 75,000, about 5 per cent of the Province's population. Between the census years of 1951 and 1956 the population increased approximately 50 per cent, while the Provincial population increased 17.5 per cent.

The western portion of the region was made into a new Region VII in December, 1957, reducing the region by approximately one-quarter to the size described above.

The area is served by six district offices of the Social Welfare Branch, located in Fort St. John, Pouce Coupe, Prince George, Vanderhoof, Quesnel, and Williams Lake. The Fort St. John office was established on April 24th, 1957.

There are no municipal offices in Region V, and the three municipalities having responsibility for welfare services are served by Provincial offices. Two of these munici-

palities were responsible for social welfare as villages prior to the promulgation of the new " Municipal Act " on July 1st, 1957, which relieved them of their responsibility. These were Dawson Creek and Quesnel. Six months later these communities again became responsible for the welfare needs of their citizens when, on January 1st, 1958, Dawson Creek became a city and Quesnel became a town. The other responsible municipality is the City of Prince George.

In a survey done as of December 31st, 1957, it was found that clients receiving our service while living in these municipalities numbered 826, comprising 27.2 per cent of the 3,036 active at the time in the whole of Region V. At the time their population was estimated as being approximately 25,000, or one-third of the population of the region. Thus, in spite of the proximity of these municipalities to Social Welfare Branch offices, it is apparent that the needs of the more remote areas are receiving their due proportion of the social workers' attention.

A lack of organized resources in the area is a major difficulty. Foster homes for the younger children in care are generally available when needed, but homes for older children and problem children are sadly lacking. This could be relieved with additional staff, which could devote more time to home-finding and supervising available homes at a distance from the offices.

There are no boarding homes for adults in the region, and except for those few instances when arrangements for specific cases may be made in private homes, we are dependent upon other areas.

Rotary Harbour, offering low-cost housing to aged persons, was opened in Dawson Creek in the spring of 1957 and is gradually being utilized. A similar resource in Prince George is being planned for opening in the fall of 1958.

Notre Dame School, a boarding school for girls in Dawson Creek, is a good resource for certain girls in care and is available to all offices. Six of our wards were residing there on March 31st, 1958.

Service clubs, ministers, teachers, municipal authorities, and other interested persons give inestimable assistance by way of extra financial help, clothing committees, and, particularly in the remote areas, case-handling. Without them many of our clients would have received a much lesser standard of service.

The economy of the region is based mainly on lumber, except in the Peace River area, which is most active in farming and in the production of oil and gas. During the fiscal year under review the lumber industry experienced a serious slow-down due to a weakening of lumber markets and exceptionally poor working conditions arising out of an extended rainy period. These same conditions affected farming adversely and oil exploration. The result was a rather large number of unemployed, which on March 31st, 1958, was still increasing. Many had to be assisted by the Social Welfare Branch offices, and their numbers were such that social workers' time for other cases was seriously restricted.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region V as at March 31st, 1958

Category	Fort St. John	Pouce Coupe	Prince George	Quesnel	Vanderhoof	Williams Lake	Total
Family Service	14	31	71	12	4	28	160
Social Allowance	64	161	479	89	59	89	941
Blind Persons' Allowance	1	3	14	3	12	16	49
Old-age Assistance	35	69	109	45	51	57	366
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	109	143	238	106	99	124	819
Disabled Persons' Allowance	3	5	8	5	3	9	33
Child Welfare	64	130	186	104	69	107	660
Health and Institutional	------	9	15	3	1	9	37
Totals	290	551	1,120	367	298	439	3,065

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region V for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	234	5.3	160	5.2
Social Allowance	1,085	24.3	941	30.7
Blind Persons' Allowance	97	2.2	49	1.6
Old-age Assistance	498	11.2	366	11.9
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	1,351	30.3	819	26.7
Disabled Persons' Allowance	59	1.3	33	1.1
Child Welfare	1,047	23.5	660	21.5
Health and Institutional	84	1.9	37	1.2
Totals	4,455	100.0	3,065	100.0

The case load increased during the fiscal year. This caused additional pressure of work in the various offices; nevertheless, staff morale remained at a high level, and by the end of the year much of the backlog of work was removed.

I wish to commend and thank all members of staff—social work, stenographic, and clerical—for their industry and loyalty. It was of the highest order.

I also wish to thank the many members of the community for their understanding and help.

Respectfully submitted.

V. H. DALLAMORE,
Regional Administrator.

REGION VI

I submit herewith the annual report of the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region VI for the fiscal year 1957/58.

The geographic boundaries of the region, which extend from Pattullo Bridge, both sides of the Fraser River to Lytton, and the summit of the Hope–Princeton Highway, remained unchanged during this fiscal year. However, much growth took place within these boundaries, and it is estimated that the population increased from approximately 113,000 in 1951 to approximately 155,000 in 1957. The most spectacular growth continued to occur in North Surrey, but other areas such as Chilliwack showed a steady and sound economic growth. Although industrial development and expansion is anticipated in the valley, nothing of a large nature has yet taken place. The economy of the valley is still very dependent upon seasonal employment such as logging, farming, and fishing, and the impact of the economic recession was severe.

Two new district offices and one additional supervisory unit were established during the year. Due to the secession of White Rock City from Surrey Municipality, it was necessary to establish a Provincial district office in White Rock City in May, 1957. In November, 1957, a Provincial district office was established in Langley City, and a district supervisor was assigned to this office with supervisory responsibility for three offices (Langley City, Langley Municipality, and White Rock) and six social workers carrying a case load of 1,636 cases.

The addition of White Rock and Langley City district offices increased the administrative offices in the region from six to eight. Three of these offices were municipally administered and five Provincially.

In July, 1957, under the provisions of the new " Municipal Act," the Village of Hope elected to retain its village status and discontinued to function as a *per capita* municipality under the " Social Assistance Act." Due to the addition of White Rock City as

a *per capita* municipality, this did not affect the total number of *per capita* municipalities, which remained at ten.

At the end of the fiscal year, plans were well under way for the change in status of The Coroporation of the Township of Langley from a municipally administered office to that of a *per capita* office. This would enable the amalgamation of the Langley municipal and Langley City district offices and effect a more economical administrative unit. Plans were also under way for the amalgamation of the Chilliwack City district office and the Chilliwhack Township municipal office. Here again economies in administration would be effected.

The eight administrative offices in the region were staffed by twenty-four social workers, four district supervisors, two assistant supervisors, and three municipal administrators. The two assistant supervisors and two of the municipal administrators carried partial case loads together with their other responsibilities. The staff increased by three —one district supervisor, one assistant supervisor, and one social worker—during the year. This was necessitated by the opening of two additional district offices and the increase in case-load content and size.

The regional case load had increased by 362 cases by the end of the fiscal year, and the number of cases accepted for service during the year increased by 354 cases over the previous year. The highest increase in cases accepted for service was in the Child Welfare and Social Allowance categories. The Child Welfare intake of cases increased by 154 over the previous year, and the Social Allowance by 175. However, from a case-load standpoint the pension category showed the greatest increase at the end of the fiscal year. This increase amounted to 244 cases and can be accounted for by the fact that there is less turnover of cases—that is, less cases closed—in the pension case load than in the Child Welfare and Social Allowance.

The increase in the intake of Social Allowance cases can be attributed to the unemployment situation, which became progressively worse during the year. The increase in the financial assistance required by employable persons who could not find employment is shown by the following figures. In 1956/57 an average of thirty-four family units and single individuals per month received a total of $26,574.63 in financial assistance. In 1957/58 an average of fifty-four family units and single individuals per month received $52,243.44 during the year. This was an increase of twenty recipients per month and $25,668.92 during the year. There was no indication of any improvement in this situation at the end of the year, but rather an expectation that the situation would worsen as unemployment insurance benefits were running out for many persons and the employment problem was not improving.

The extra burden placed upon all staff by these increased requests for financial assistance was obvious, and other categories of service, such as family counselling, protection of children from neglectful parents, and supervision of children placed in foster homes, suffered.

Community resources, such as community chests, clothing centres, and service clubs, were made maximum use of during the year due to the increased financial need. Small housing developments for the aged were being planned and developed in several communities, but there was no increase in nursing-home facilities. This continued to present a problem in regard to hospital-clearance cases. Boarding-home facilities for the aged did increase to some extent, but there continues to be a need for an increase in this type of care for the aged.

The municipalities, with whom we work so closely in our shared responsibility of administering social allowances and in giving social services to persons in their community, have been most helpful and understanding, and our thanks are extended to them.

Thanks and appreciation are also extended to the many organizations and individuals who have helped us in many different ways to meet the needs of the people we serve.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region VI as at March 31, 1958

Category	Abbotsford	Chilliwack	Chilliwhack	Haney	Langley City	Langley Municipality	Surrey	White Rock	Total
Family Service	26	25	27	18	8	19	51	6	180
Social Allowance	314	180	156	138	26	140	460	99	1,513
Blind Persons' Allowance	17	10	5	6	.....	10	15	4	67
Old-age Assistance	233	82	114	115	18	126	358	62	1,108
Supplementary assistance to Old-age Security	748	349	344	403	102	449	1,353	338	4,086
Disabled Persons' Allowance	50	27	13	24	5	23	54	15	211
Child Welfare	160	95	131	100	15	158	286	18	963
Health and Institutional	19	8	8	10	1	5	25	9	85
Totals	1,567	776	798	814	175	930	2,602	551	8,213

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region VI for the Fiscal Years 1957 and 1958

Category	1957		1958	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	206	2.6	180	2.2
Social Allowance	1,405	17.9	1,513	18.4
Blind Persons' Allowance	70	0.9	67	0.8
Old-age Assistance	1,086	13.8	1,108	13.5
Supplementary assistance to Old-age Security	3,903	49.7	4,086	49.8
Disabled Persons' Allowance	169	2.2	211	2.6
Child Welfare	906	11.5	963	11.7
Health and Institutional	106	1.4	85	1.0
Totals	7,851	100.0	8,213	100.0

Respectfully submitted.

(MISS) MARY K. KING,
Regional Administrator.

REGION VII

I submit herewith the following annual report of the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region VII for the fiscal year 1957/58.

This region was created on December 1st, 1957, by the transfer of two offices each from Regions II and V: Prince Rupert and Terrace offices were transferred from Region II, Burns Lake and Smithers offices from Region V. The size of the two former regions, together with the amount of work the Regional Administrators were encountering, made it necessary to lighten the burden of work and to cut the administrative travelling time involved so that service could be rendered efficiently.

Terrace was chosen as regional headquarters because it is a growing communications centre with relatively central access to all parts of the region and convenient air-line service to Vancouver.

The region lies in the north-west corner of British Columbia, extending from Millbanke Sound to the Alaska Border along the coast-line and from the Queen Charlotte Islands eastward to Endako on the Canadian National Railway. The northern boundary is the 57th parallel. The direct mileage by auto from east to west is nearly 500 miles. The major population centres are Prince Rupert and Kitimat on the Coast, together with the Interior communities of Burns Lake, Hazelton, Smithers, and Terrace and other smaller villages strung along the Skeena and Bulkley River systems or along Highway No. 16.

The climatic and biotic endowment of the region deserves notice because there are two different climatic zones in the region which affect the flora, industry, and lives of the citizens. The coast-line has a moist, stable, sea-induced climate. As a result, the Queen Charlotte Islands and the Prince Rupert area are largely fishing or logging centres. The major fisheries are salmon, halibut, ground-fish, crab, and herring. The climate is suitable for pulp-manufacture, which has resulted in the building of a large pulp-mill of Columbia Cellulose at Port Edward. The wood products are coastal, with spruce, hemlock, and red cedar abundant. This coastal climate continues up the Skeena River valley nearly 200 miles. Terrace lies within this influence, and has thus become the logging-operation centre for the Columbia Cellulose forest-management area. It is this climate that makes a small mixed fruit and vegetable production possible at Terrace. At Hazelton you enter the Central Interior climatic zone. The land alters to become the broader, grassy, plain-like valleys of the Central Interior. The summer is short; the winter, long and cold. The valleys make good farm land and cattle country. Smithers is the centre of a growing agricultural area. Marketing, a problem for years, is being successfully overcome with the growth of local markets at Kitimat and Terrace. The major farm activity is the Burns Lake area, and continuing south to Francois Lake is cattle-raising. In these Interior valleys, lumbering is again the most important industry, but the forest is different, as are the products. Lodgepole pine and Douglas fir, in smaller stands, are the major cuts. There are many small independent mills in these valleys producing railway ties, pit-props, and lumber.

The estimated regional population at the end of the 1956 fiscal year was 41,800. The Social Welfare Branch serves this population through four district offices, employing eight social workers. The individual office complement is: Prince Rupert, 3; Terrace, 2; Smithers, 1, plus an assistant supervisor who carries a portion of the Smithers case load as well as supervising the Burns Lake office, where one social worker is employed.

The staff in Prince Rupert cover the area from Kitimat north to Alaska, the Queen Charlotte Islands, and the Municipality of Prince Rupert (1956 population, 10,498), which, being responsible for welfare costs, pays the Branch on a *per capita* basis for this service. The Terrace office district includes the District Municipality of Kitimat (1956 population, 9,676), which is similarly responsible for welfare costs and is similarly served on a *per capita* basis. One of the workers in Terrace carries the Kitimat area. The

Smithers office covers the district from west of Hazelton eastward to Topley, about 6 miles east of Smithers. Burns Lake office services a wide, scattered sparsely populated area from Babine Lake south to Francois Lake. Winter driving is hazardous in all the region save Prince Rupert.

In June, 1957, as a result of the new "Municipal Act," the Village of Smithers, which had been responsible for welfare costs and administration, although served by the Branch on a *per capita* basis, was relieved of the responsibility for its inhabitants in so far as welfare is concerned.

In October and November the industrial community of Kitimat suffered an economic dislocation when, due to a slump in its aluminium market, the Aluminum Company of Canada postponed work on a new series of pot-lines. About 1,500 men were affected, largely construction-workers. There was a good deal of publicity given this, but through close co-operation between the company, union, and other officials, the individuals involved suffered less hardship than could have occurred. Many workers left the area, but those who stayed have now been absorbed into the work force. As a direct or indirect result, our Social Allowance case load rose from an average of four to six cases to an average of twelve to fifteen cases.

The regional case load has been affected this year by the rapid rise in unemployment commencing in the fall and continuing through to the end of the fiscal year. The Prince Rupert-Terrace case loads have been most particularly affected. In both offices the case loads increased as follows, due to aid to unemployed employables. The June figures in both offices show an intake in this category of exactly one-half the like intake during March, 1958. In both instances the increase in case load in this category was more than 40 per cent. This is a much higher percentage than has been experienced in past years when, due to the British Columbia winter climate, there are always more unemployed. This increased pressure on an already fully extended staff has made it difficult to maintain an adequate level of service to our other cases and has precluded the performance of preventive work.

The community resources in this region are limited in contrast to the Lower Mainland. There are many active service clubs in Kitimat, Prince Rupert, Terrace, Smithers, and Burns Lake. They are an unfailing resource and are typical of the spirit of independence and neighbourliness still found in the north. The Anglican ladies auxiliaries throughout the region have this year adopted social services as one of their projects, so that this resource will be available. We have received warm co-operation from municipal officials, Magistrates, educative personnel, members of the Bar, police, hospital authorities, and the ministers of different religious orders. The foster-parents of our children in care deserve special mention in our expression of gratitude.

The welcome that has been extended to the new office of Regional Administrator by those I have met has been most heart-warming.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region VII as at March 31st, 1958

	Burns Lake	Prince Rupert	Smithers	Terrace	Total
Family Service	9	32	19	31	91
Social Allowance	65	204	90	57	416
Blind Persons' Allowance	13	17	14	6	50
Old-age Assistance	38	71	46	20	175
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	75	246	127	75	523
Disabled Persons' Allowance	3	17	10	4	34
Child Welfare	34	126	71	173	404
Health and Institutional	2	10	1	9	22
Totals	239	723	378	375	1,715

It will be seen from the above table that the region offers some absorbing difference in case-load content from one office to another.

The Prince Rupert case loads are close to 60 per cent native or part native. Problems of cultural transition abound, evidenced in a high Social Allowance case load with poor rehabilitative prospects. Many emergency child-neglect situations, often temporary, due to the parents partying while in town, arise. In Burns Lake the case load is 37 per cent native, with many of the same problems as Prince Rupert, plus the complicating high degree of illiteracy in the native population in this area.

The Kitimat case load is low in financial assistance categories but is high in child welfare cases, largely adoption cases. Many cases are immigrants from Greece, Portugal, Italy, or Germany, so that language is often a problem encountered by the worker. In the Terrace area there are forty-three foster-children, a very high percentage in a case load of 195.

Table II.—Case Load by Major Categories in Region VII for the Fiscal Year 1957/1958

Category	1958	
	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	91	5.3
Social Allowance	415	24.3
Blind Persons' Allowance	50	2.9
Old-age Assistance	175	10.2
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	523	30.5
Disabled Persons' Allowance	34	2.0
Child Welfare	404	23.6
Health and Institutional	22	1.3
Totals	1,715	100.0

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. CROSSLEY,
Regional Administrator.

PART II.—DIVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION

FAMILY DIVISION

I wish to present the annual report of the Family Division covering the services provided for families and individuals by the Social Welfare Branch as described in the provisions of the "Social Assistance Act," the "Mothers' Allowances Act," and the Family Service programme for the fiscal year April 1st, 1957 to March 31st, 1958.

SOCIAL ALLOWANCES SECTION

For the year under review the case load showed the customary seasonal decline, although not as sharp as in former years, up to September, 1957. Thereafter to March, 1958, the number of recipients increased rapidly and markedly. By comparing the figures of April, 1957, and March, 1958, in the following table it will be noted that the case load increased by 18.5 per cent while the number of recipients increased by almost 21 per cent.

Table I.—Case Load and Total Number of Recipients on a Monthly Basis

	Heads of Families	Dependents	Single Recipients	Total	Case Load
April, 1957	3,533	9,336	5,868	18,737	9,401
May, 1957	3,423	9,000	5,808	18,231	9,231
June, 1957	3,369	8,731	5,643	17,743	9,012
July, 1957	3,344	8,662	5,641	17,647	8,985
August, 1957	3,310	8,491	5,621	17,422	8,931
September, 1957	3,304	8,476	5,588	17,368	8,892
October, 1957	3,388	8,812	5,878	18,078	9,266
November, 1957	3,704	9,676	6,382	19,762	10,086
December, 1957	4,054	10,845	6,783	21,682	10,837
January, 1958	4,197	11,474	6,838	22,509	11,035
February, 1958	4,288	11,587	6,762	22,637	11,050
March, 1958	4,284	11,494	6,857	22,635	11,141

The other remarkable and startling fact in the above table is that from October 1st, 1957, to March, 1958, the case load increased by over 25 per cent and the number of recipients by over 30 per cent.

Of the total number of recipients of Social Allowance in the Province in March, 1958 (22,635), the totals according to regions are shown in Table II below. For purposes of comparison, March, 1957, totals are shown in parentheses. It should be noted that by March, 1958, sixteen municipalities were no longer responsible for Social Allowance costs under the provisions of the new "Municipal Act." In the case of these municipalities, no March, 1958, figures are shown in the table.

Table II.—Regional Totals of Individuals in Receipt of Social Allowance in March, 1958 (March, 1957, Totals in Parentheses)

	Provincial Responsibility Case Loads		*Municipal Responsibility Case Loads*				
Region I—							
Alberni	97	(61)	Alberni City	60	(40)		
Courtenay	480	(286)	Campbell River Village	.....	(43)		
Duncan	203	(101)	Courtenay	41	(49)		
Nanaimo	405	(357)	Central Saanich	12	(12)		
Victoria	282	(241)	Cumberland	.....	(22)		
			Duncan	29	(33)		
			Esquimalt	69	(63)		
			Ladysmith	.....	(23)		
			Lake Cowichan Village	.....	(17)		
			Nanaimo	264	(215)		
			North Cowichan	89	(79)		
			Oak Bay	18	(18)		
			Port Alberni	116	(90)		
			Qualicum Beach Village	.....	(10)		
			Saanich	203	(205)		
			Victoria	993	(684)		
	1,467	(1,046)		1,894	(1,603)	3,361	(2,649)
Region II—							
New Westminster	46	(50)	Burnaby	708	(516)		
Vancouver	196	(157)	Coquitlam	277	(224)		
Westview	54	(46)	Delta	181	(129)		
			New Westminster	412	(476)		
			North Vancouver City	171	(142)		
			North Vancouver District	155	(145)		
			Port Coquitlam	94	(88)		
			Port Moody	43	(34)		
			Richmond	351	(260)		
			Vancouver	4,873	(3,956)		
			West Vancouver	95	(71)		
			Powell River	117	(.....)		
			Westview Village	.....	(42)		
	296	(253)		7,477	(6,083)	7,773	(6,336)
Region III—							
Kamloops	874	(482)	Armstrong	18	(13)		
Kelowna	226	(313)	Coldstream	38	(19)		
Penticton	376	(284)	Enderby	15	(20)		
Salmon Arm	174	(148)	Glenmore	12	(17)		
Vernon	354	(275)	Kamloops	236	(228)		
			Kelowna	109	(104)		
			Merritt	.....	(32)		
			North Kamloops	.....	(101)		
			Oliver	.....	(17)		
			Peachland	13	(7)		
			Penticton	217	(180)		
			Princeton	.....	(23)		
			Revelstoke	36	(35)		
			Salmon Arm City	29	(21)		
			Salmon Arm District	78	(72)		
			Spallumcheen	29	(36)		
			Summerland	47	(54)		
			Vernon	125	(74)		
	2,004	(1,502)		1,002	(1,053)	3,006	(2,555)
Region IV—							
Cranbrook	313	(428)	Castlegar	.....	(42)		
Creston	251	(237)	Cranbrook	131	(103)		
Fernie	42	(44)	Creston Village	.....	(36)		
Grand Forks	79	(78)	Fernie	38	(32)		
Nelson	530	(488)	Grand Forks	46	(40)		
New Denver	95	(85)	Greenwood	11	(16)		
Trail	179	(119)	Kaslo	2	(.....)		
			Kimberley	33	(19)		
			Nelson	135	(121)		
			Rossland	38	(28)		
			Slocan	8	(14)		
			Trail	132	(137)		
			Warfield	.....	(10)		
	1,489	(1,479)		574	(598)	2,063	(2,077)

Table II.—Regional Totals of Individuals in Receipt of Social Allowance in March, 1958 (March, 1957, Totals in Parentheses)—Continued

	Provincial Responsibility Case Loads		*Municipal Responsibility Case Loads*			
Region V—						
Fort St. John	163	(....)	Dawson Creek	134	(122)	
Pouce Coupe	258	(387)	Fort St. John	....	(16)	
Prince George	467	(531)	Prince George	235	(140)	
Quesnel	107	(79)	Quesnel	77	(72)	
Vanderhoof	138	(....)				
Williams Lake	178	(144)				
	1,311	(1,141)		446	(350)	1,757 (1,491)
Region VI—						
Abbotsford	119	(102)	Chilliwack City	190	(123)	
Chilliwack	284	(189)	Chilliwhack Township	364	(404)	
			Hope	....	(55)	
			Kent	5	(12)	
			Langley	369	(272)	
			Langley City	62	(90)	
			Maple Ridge	287	(294)	
			Matsqui	302	(235)	
			Mission District	183	(176)	
			Mission Village	66	(34)	
			Pitt Meadows	49	(39)	
			Sumas	74	(57)	
			Surrey	1,162	(1,282)	
			White Rock	187	(....)	
	403	(291)		3,300	(3,073)	3,703 (3,364)
Region VII—						
Burns Lake	138	(100)	Kitimat	42	(....)	
Prince Rupert	155	(83)	Prince Rupert	287	(186)	
Smithers	229	(148)	Smithers	....	(39)	
Terrace	121	(93)				
	643	(424)		329	(225)	972 (649)
						22,635 (19,121)

From the above figures it will be noted that the distribution of recipients of Social Allowance between organized and unorganized areas has varied little since the last Annual Report. Approximately 66 per cent resided in organized territory and approximately 34 per cent resided in unorganized territory.

The following are the approximate percentages of the total number of recipients by region as at March, 1958: Region I, 14.8 per cent; Region II, 34.3 per cent; Region III, 13.3 per cent; Region IV, 9.1 per cent; Region V, 7.8 per cent; Region VI, 16.4 per cent; Region VII, 4.3 per cent.

The following table gives a comparison of Social Allowance case loads as well as recipients:—

Table III.—Case Load and Total Number of Recipients

	Mar., 1956	Mar., 1957	Mar., 1958
Heads of families	3,730	3,695	4,284
Dependents	9,761	9,397	11,494
Single recipients	6,346	6,029	6,857
Actual case load	10,076	9,724	11,141
Dependents	9,761	9,397	11,494
Total number of recipients	19,837	19,121	22,635

From this it will be seen that in March, 1958, the case load was higher by 1,417 cases than in March of the previous year, or by approximately 14.7 per cent. Another way of presenting this figure of 1,417 is to point out that it represents almost five addi-

tional average case loads, without taking into account any increase in case loads in any other categories of assistance or service, which have been added to existing case loads.

Finally, on the basis of legal residence as defined in the " Residence and Responsibility Act," the following table shows the distribution of the recipients of assistance:—

Table IV.—Legal Residence of Social Allowance Recipients

	Mar., 1956	Mar., 1957	Mar., 1958
Municipal responsibilities	10,882	10,299	11,804
Provincial responsibilities	8,955	8,822	10,831
Totals	19,837	19,121	22,635

From this table it will be noted approximately 52.2 per cent of the recipients of Social Allowance were municipal responsibilities and 47.8 per cent were responsibilities of the Province, under the provisions of the " Residence and Responsibility Act."

Sponsorship for Physical Rehabilitation

During the year under review the Social Welfare Branch, and responsible municipalities where applicable, sponsored a total of seventy-nine trainees and patients in the G. F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre and the Canadian Arthritic and Rheumatism Society Medical Centre for approximately 4,500 days of resident care and training.

Of these seventy-nine persons, fourteen suffered from some form of arthritis and sixty-five were physically disabled or handicapped. Fifty-three were resident trainees and twenty-six were out-patients. At least four of the resident trainees later became out-patients.

Many trainees are enabled to return to employment or obtain vocational training for a new type of employment. Others are assisted to become more efficient in self-care, and thus do not require boarding- or nursing-home care, while still others are enabled to function more adequately and comfortably in their own home.

Vocational Training

Through the co-operation of the Department of Education, it has also been possible for many recipients of Social Allowance to receive vocational training under the Dominion-Provincial vocational training grants. The Branch has participated financially in some instances or assisted in social planning for the single trainee or for the family of a trainee. This programme we value very highly as a resource for individuals and families known to us.

Following is a statement of expenditures made by the Social Welfare Branch for Social Allowances during the year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958:—

Table V.—Expenditures by the Province for Social Allowances, Medical Services, etc.

	Fiscal Year 1955/56	Fiscal Year 1956/57	Fiscal Year 1957/58
1. Cases who are the responsibility of a municipality (80 per cent paid by the Province)	$2,626,760.81	$2,633,636.62	$2,781,941.03
2. Cases who are the sole responsibility of the Province (100 per cent paid by the Province)	2,350,451.69	2,521,431.47	2,919,033.33
3. Repatriation, transportation within the Province, nursing- and boarding-home care (other than tuberculosis), special allowances and grants	1,420,208.51	1,505,034.90	1,640,054.12
4. Emergency payments, such as where a family may lose its home by fire or similar circumstances	52,891.24	37,163.45	47,555.23
5. Municipal and Provincial cases—			
(*a*) Tuberculosis, boarding-, nursing-, and private-home cases	402,850.12	327,432.07	298,322.92
(*b*) Transportation of tuberculosis cases	2,638.57	2,868.16	3,342.22
(*c*) Comforts allowances for tuberculosis cases	11,991.16	8,924.75	6,626.00
6. Hospitalization of Social Assistance cases	19,319.36	13,927.70	30,980.20
Net Social Allowances	$6,887,111.46	$7,050,419.12	$7,727,855.05[1]
7. Administration and operation of project and pavilion for Japanese at New Denver	38,600.41	61,990.65	36,480.08
8. Medical services and drugs	2,208,252.70	2,240,710.53	2,422,614.32
Totals	$9,133,964.57	$9,353,120.30	$10,186,949.45

[1] Reconciliation with Public Accounts:—

Gross expenditure for Social Allowances as per Public Accounts	$7,891,944.34
Less credits (excluding amount chargeable to Government of Canada)	164,089.29
	$7,727,855.05

For the fiscal year 1957/58 the Province received from the Federal Government *re*—

Unemployment Assistance Agreement	$2,828,568.49
Welfare assistance to immigrants	19,683.69
Welfare assistance to Hungarian refugees	18,727.98
Sundry	1,274.53
	$2,868,254.69

Developments in Social Assistance Programme

1. Effective June 1st, 1957, the Social Welfare Branch increased the amount in which it would share for costs of boarding-home and nursing-home care by $10 and $15 per month respectively. Such increases were to be based on consideration of the standard of services rendered and facilities provided.

2. Effective November 1st, 1957, the maximum comforts allowance which might be granted on the basis of need and other resources to persons in receipt of social assistance in nursing and boarding homes was raised to $10 per month.

3. The annual Christmas bonus was approved for payment, in the amount of $5 for each head of family and $2 for each single person, to persons in receipt of Social Allowance during the month of December, 1957.

4. In March, 1958, notification was given that, effective April 1st, 1958, Social Allowance and Mothers' Allowance rates were to be increased by $5 per month for a single person, $10 per month for two persons, and $2 per month for each additional dependent. The maximum monthly allowances which may be granted will therefore be $55 for Unit 1, $86.50 for Unit 2, $104.50 for Unit 3, and $122.50 for Unit 4, and $18 per month for each additional dependent.

5. Effective December 1st, 1957, a new Region VII was created, comprising the western portion of the former Region V, with the Regional Administrator's headquarters at Terrace.

"Social Assistance Act" and Regulations

Two amendments were made during this fiscal year to the regulations to the "Social Assistance Act," as follows:—

(1) Section 5 was amended by adding a clause (*d*) providing that where the applicant for social assistance is a deserted wife, she shall be expected to make every reasonable effort to obtain support from her husband if his whereabouts are known and may, if the circumstances warrant, be required to make a complaint against her husband under the " Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act."

(2) Section 6, dealing with the duties of municipalities, was amended to require municipalities with a population of 15,000, rather than 10,000 as previously, or over to employ at least one social worker, while municipalities of less than 15,000 population may either appoint their own social worker or purchase the social-work service from the Social Welfare Branch at a fee of 30 cents *per capita* of population instead of 15 cents per capita as previously.

As provided in section 13 of the regulations to the Act, seven Boards of Review were established during the year.

MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES SECTION

As has occurred for many years past, the Mothers' Allowance case load has continued to fall.

There is little to add to the comments of former years regarding the causes of this decline. There were increased opportunities and incentives for employment of women during the war years. With the implementation of the " Social Assistance Act " in 1945, an alternative form of assistance, with much less prohibitive and restrictive qualifications for eligibility and of equal financial benefit, presented itself. It is safe to say there are innumerable mothers and children who might otherwise qualify for Mothers' Allowance, except for some technicality, in receipt of Social Allowance. Some are recipients of Social Allowance by choice.

Regardless of the many reasons why the case load has declined, this categorical form of assistance seems no longer required, and the purpose for which it was first instituted no longer exists.

As was pointed out in the last Annual Report, between 1940 and 1946 the case load had decreased by 49 per cent to 905. By March, 1950, it had decreased another 28 per cent to 643.

The following table shows the trend in the case load since 1950:—

Table I.—Comparative Statement of Case Load

As at March, 1951	569
As at March, 1952	503
As at March, 1953	470
As at March, 1954	426
As at March, 1955	393
As at March, 1956	323
As at March, 1957	284
As at March, 1958	243

Thus it will be seen that since March, 1950, the case load has diminished by approximately 62 per cent.

On a monthly basis, the case-load figures for the fiscal year under review are as follows:—

Table II.—Monthly Case Load, April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

Month	Number of Allowances in Pay	Number of Persons		Incapacitated Husbands
		Mothers	Children	
April, 1957	278	278	640	42
May, 1957	279	279	638	43
June, 1957	274	274	633	41
July, 1957	271	271	632	40
August, 1957	269	269	634	40
September, 1957	260	260	616	36
October, 1957	252	252	600	35
November, 1957	252	252	600	35
December, 1957	251	251	598	35
January, 1958	248	248	592	33
February, 1958	244	244	582	31
March, 1958	243	243	584	29

The volume of applications and reapplications has declined also, and the following table indicates how these have been dealt with:—

Table III.—Statement of Applications Considered and Decisions Made

Applications pending as at April 1st, 1957	10
New applications received during year	39
Reapplications received during year	22
Total	71
Decisions—	
Grants	47
Refusals	14
Withdrawn	2
	63
Applications pending as at March 31st, 1958	8
Total	71
Reasons for refusals—	
Assets in excess	5
Male boarder and income in excess	1
Property in excess	1
Mother unable to qualify under section 7 (*b*) and (*c*) of the Act	1
Mother ineligible under section 3(*c*)(1)	1
Desertion eligibility requirements not met	1
Illness of husband and death occurred outside of British Columbia	2
Husband the petitioner for divorce	1
Social Allowance preferable form of assistance	1
Total	14

Table III.—Statement of Applications Considered and Decisions Made—Continued

Reasons for applications pending—	
Documents and medical report required	4
Awaiting information *re* other income	1
First investigation report not received	1
Decision pending	2
Total	8

Cancellations during the fiscal year under review totalled eighty-eight, and for the reasons indicated in the following table:—

Table IV.—Reasons for Cancellation of the Allowances

Social Allowance preferable form of assistance	3
Mother deceased	1
Mother remarried	9
Left British Columbia	2
Mother in hospital indefinitely	2
Foster-mother in hospital indefinitely	1
Mother earning in excess	32
Mother ineligible under section 7 of the "Mothers' Allowances Act"	3
Mother receiving a rehabilitation grant	1
Husband receiving a rehabilitation grant	1
Husband not totally disabled	2
Husband released from Penitentiary	3
Deserting husband returned	1
Only child removed	2
Only child 18 years of age	6
Only child under 16 left school	1
Only child under 18 left school	8
Older children maintaining	3
Unearned income in excess	5
Withdrawn	2
Total	88

Of the cancelled cases, the length of time each family had been in receipt of Mothers' Allowance is as follows:—

Years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Cases	25	15	6	5	3	5	8	2	3	5	3	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	1

Total cases, 88. Average length of time on allowance, 4.94 years.

The above tabulation presents some interesting facts. It is to be noted that over one-third of the cancellations were because the mother was employed. This is perhaps an indication of two things: Firstly, the mother's desire for economic dependence so that her children may derive benefits not possible on social assistance; secondly, that the allowance is a basic minimum income on which the mother cannot maintain her family. It is perhaps, too, an indication of the trend toward employment of women in greater numbers than ever before. In any event, these mothers have made adequate plans for their children and find themselves free to seek and accept employment. They probably account for approximately 58 per cent of the mothers who remain on Mothers' Allowance for less than five years.

This is probably not so of the three mothers who remained on the allowance for fifteen years or more. Physical or mental inadequacy of the mother or the children as well as lack of training on the mother's part may have made it impossible for them to find employment. In addition, they were granted assistance in the days when Mothers' Allowance was regarded as a pension, and they may have continued to regard it so. If this is not so, perhaps our present skills do not enable us to help such families along the road to independence.

For the mothers who were in receipt of Mothers' Allowance as at March, 1958, they were eligible for the allowance under specific qualifications defined by the Act, and their status is as follows:—

Table V.—Status and Number of Mothers and Dependents in Receipt of Allowance as at March, 1958

Status of Mother in Accordance with Eligibility Qualifications Set by the Act	Number of Children							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Widows	42	52	39	18	2	3	3	159
Penitentiary	2	5	2	1	----	----	----	10
Husband in mental hospital	1	2	----	----	1	----	----	4
Incapacitated husbands home	2	1	----	2	----	----	----	5
Incapacitated husbands away	2	1	3	1	----	----	1	8
Incapacitated husbands O.A.S., O.A.A., B.P., and D.P.A.	5	5	2	2	1	1	----	16
Judicial separation	----	----	1	1	----	----	----	2
Divorced	4	6	5	1	----	----	----	16
Deserted	3	11	4	2	----	----	----	20
Foster-mother and elder sister	2	----	1	----	----	----	----	3
Totals	63	83	57	28	4	4	4	243

From the above table the following figures are derived:—

Table VI.—Number of Individuals for Whom Allowance Granted

Mothers	243
Husbands	5[1]
Children	584
Total	832

[1] This figure applies only to those incapacitated husbands who reside in the home and who are included in the Mothers' Allowance payment. In addition, it will be noted that there is a total of twenty-eight incapacitated husbands in the mental hospital, out of the home, or in receipt of Old Age Security, Old-age Assistance, Blind Persons' Allowance, or Disabled Persons' Allowance.

Costs of Mothers' Allowances

The basic amount of Mothers' Allowances is set by the " Mothers' Allowances Act " and has remained unchanged since 1920. It is therefore necessary to grant a supplementary allowance from Social Allowance funds in order that the maximum allowance payable to recipients of Mothers' Allowances may be equal to the allowance payable Social Allowance recipients. This supplementary allowance is a 100-per-cent charge on the Province, as is the Mothers' Allowance, which is statutory.

Because of this it is necessary to present two financial statements in order to report total costs.

Table VII.—Mothers' Allowance Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

Amount of allowances paid as follows:—

Month	Amount of Allowance	
April, 1957	$12,723.53	
May, 1957	12,768.53	
June, 1957	12,300.83	
July, 1957	12,414.28	
August, 1957	11,925.83	
September, 1957	11,677.08	
October, 1957	11,226.38	
November, 1957	11,403.88	
December, 1957	11,395.00	
January, 1958	11,351.15	
February, 1958	11,214.90	
March, 1958	11,112.60	
		$141,513.99
Reconciliation with Ledger Account in Controlling and Audit Branch: Amount advanced by Minister of Finance		$141,513.99

The books and records of the Director of Welfare respecting Mothers' Allowances for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1958, have been examined under my direction.

C. J. FERBER,
Comptroller-General.

Table VIII.—Financial Statement of Supplementary Social Allowances Paid to Recipients of Mothers' Allowance (Vote 191) for the Fiscal Year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958.

Amount of allowances paid as follows:—

Month	Amount of Allowance	
April, 1957	$12,582.32	
May, 1957	12,566.02	
June, 1957	12,292.17	
July, 1957	12,230.87	
August, 1957	11,894.72	
September, 1957	11,291.92	
October, 1957	11,235.42	
November, 1957	11,313.42	
December, 1957	11,401.95	
Christmas bonus	1,255.00	
January, 1958	11,035.00	
February, 1958	10,988.45	
March, 1958	10,781.80	
		$140,869.06
Reconciliation with Ledger Account in Controlling and Audit Branch: Amount advanced by Minister of Finance		$140,869.06

The books and records of the Director of Welfare respecting Supplementary Social Allowances paid to recipients of Mothers' Allowance for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1958, have been examined under my direction.

C. J. FERBER,
Comptroller-General.

Table IX.—Statement Showing per Capita Cost to the Province

Fiscal Year	Total Expenditures	Population at June of Each Year	*Per Capita* Cost to the Province
1955/56	$332,690.38	1,305,000	$0.25
1956/57	321,342.76	1,353,000	.24
1957/58	282,383.05	1,398,000	.20

General Comments

No amendments were made to the " Mothers' Allowances Act " or regulations to the Act during the year under review.

As has been reported previously, it is obvious that this legislation, providing a special categorical assistance based on prohibitive technical and social eligibility, is no longer a necessary part of the Social Welfare Branch programme.

As it is a 100-per-cent charge on the Province and while the Provision continues to exist, it is a resource used almost entirely by municipal welfare departments. The following table indicates this fact:—

Table X.—Proportion of Applications and Grants in Organized Territory

Total applications and reapplications received		61
Applicants residing in organized territory	54	
Applicants having legal residence in organized territory	57	
Total grants made during year		47
Recipients residing in organized territory	43	
Recipients having legal residence in organized territory	46	
Allowances in pay as at March 31st, 1958		243
Recipients having legal residence in unorganized territory	17	
Recipients having legal residence in organized territory	226	

Last year it was reported as follows:—

" Restrictive categorical assistance such as this should receive earnest study in relation to its effectiveness or the need for it. A far greater number of mothers and dependent children are in receipt of Social Allowance, which affords them equal financial and social benefits, and there is no reason to believe that a transfer to Social Allowance would cause any disadvantage to those mothers at present in receipt of Mothers' Allowance. It would in no way restrict the effectiveness of the over-all assistance programme in this Province. It is hoped that in the ensuing year such a study may be undertaken."

It is therefore with gratification that it has been learned that active consideration is being given to the question of continuation of Mothers' Allowances, and that it is probable that some positive action will be taken in the ensuing fiscal year.

Over the years such assistance has served its purpose in keeping families together and enabling each member to realize his full capacity for success.

This year one particular family was noted. The mother, a widow, and her children have been in receipt of assistance for eight years since the husband's death. As there were no other resources within the family or relatives, it was necessary to use community resources to the fullest extent, such as service clubs, home-maker service when the mother was ill from a chronic condition, and bursaries to assist the children in their education. This year the oldest daughter graduated from high school with first-class honours, thereby winning yet another substantial bursary award to assist her to complete university training in a specialized profession. This girl had worked during summer vacations and after school as much as she could.

We are sure the mother will be very proud of and happy for her daughter. The Branch can derive some small satisfaction, too, from the thought that by the granting of financial assistance it has contributed in part to a happy family and to the academic achievement of the daughter.

FAMILY SERVICE SECTION

" Family service " is an all-inclusive term covering all those services, including casework, which are given to families and individuals whether or not they are in receipt of financial assistance.

The family is still regarded as the primary and most important basic social unit, and the strengthening of family life is our constant concern. Sometimes the limitations of our skills do not allow us to be as helpful as we would wish to be, but sometimes other pressures of case load and lack of time do not give us an opportunity to use the skills we have.

This is unfortunate because the preservation of the family should be the most important preventive work that we do; Otherwise, the costs are high in human values as well as financially. Unfortunately, too, there is no known way to measure these costs of broken homes and broken lives or to measure the saving when families are helped to remain together and to achieve the greatest success and happiness possible for them.

The following table gives the monthly Family Service case load for the year under review:—

Table I.—Total of Family Service Cases, April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

April, 1957	1,454
May, 1957	1,484
June, 1957	1,448
July, 1957	1,462
August, 1957	1,393
September, 1957	1,360
October, 1957	1,390
November, 1957	1,397
December, 1957	1,400
January, 1958	1,365
February, 1958	1,325
March, 1958	1,296

OTHER SERVICES

Family Allowances

The Division continues to serve as a channel for requests from the Family Allowances Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare for reports concerning a family's use or eligibility for Family Allowances.

Table II.—Requests Received from Family Allowances Division, April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

Received during the fiscal year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, by months—

April, 1957	6
May, 1957	4
June, 1957	8
July, 1957	15
August, 1957	11
September, 1957	5
October, 1957	11
November, 1957	9
December, 1957	8
January, 1958	12
February, 1958	2
March, 1958	6
Total requests received	97

These requests for reports were directed as follows:—

Table III.—Referrals to District Offices and Other Agencies

Referrals pending as at April 1st, 1957		19
Requests forwarded during fiscal year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, by regions—		
Region I[1]	49	
Region II[1]	22	
Region III	9	
Region IV	3	
Region V	8	
Region VI	4	
Region VII	2	
	—	97
Total number of requests referred		116

[1] Includes referrals to private agencies in Victoria and Vancouver.

Table IV.—Referrals Completed within Fiscal Year, by Regions

Region I	53
Region II	25
Region III	9
Region IV	3
Region V	8
Region VI	4
Region VII	2
Total	104
Total number of requests referred	116
Referrals pending as at April 1st, 1958	12

Third-party Administration of Family Allowances

During this fiscal year there were no requests for third-party administration of Family Allowances.

Old Age Security

The Division also serves as a referral channel for the Old Age Security Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare for requests to assist elderly persons who encounter difficulties in completing their application for Old Age Security.

Table V.—Requests Received from Old Age Security Division from April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958

Pending as at April 1st, 1957		1
Received during fiscal year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, by months—		
April, 1957	4	
May, 1957	1	
September, 1957	1	
October, 1957	1	
November, 1957	1	
December, 1957	2	
January, 1958	1	
		11
Total case load		12

Table VI.—Requests Forwarded during Fiscal Year April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, by Regions

Region II	1
Region III	4
Region IV	1
Region V	4
Region VI	1
Total number of requests	11
Pending as at April 1st, 1957	1
Total	12

Table VII.—Reports Completed by Regions

Region II	1
Region III	3
Region IV	2
Region V	3
Region VI	2
Total reports completed	11
Total number of requests	12
Requests pending as at April 1st, 1958	1

Conclusion

As in past years, the Family Division wishes to express sincere appreciation and thanks to the clerical staff, social workers, district supervisors, and Regional Administrators, whose loyalty and service play no small part in the efforts of the Branch to assist persons in need throughout the Province.

Our expression of appreciation also goes to the municipal welfare departments, other departments of government, and the various private agencies for their co-operation and advice, always freely given and so very helpful during the past year.

(Miss) Marie Riddell,
Provincial Supervisor, Family Division.

CHILD WELFARE DIVISION

The Superintendent of Child Welfare is pleased to report a number of accomplishments and trends which indicate progress, but will also draw attention to problems which have impeded the achievement of a wholly satisfying year in child welfare.

Two thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine children were in the care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare during the past twelve months, and at March 31st, 1958, 2,287 remained.

Table I.—Legal Status and Whereabouts of Children in the Care of the Superintendent as at March 31st, 1958

	P.C.A. Wards	J.D.A. Wards	C.A.S. Wards	O.P. Wards	Before the Court	S.C.W. Non-wards	Total
Whereabouts—							
Region I	150	13	10	1	15	47	236
Region II	234	10	14	1	28	46	333
Region III	320	7	13	6	15	44	405
Region IV	149	8	14	6	17	20	214
Region V	141	4	6	2	44	27	224
Region VI	247	14	22	7	35	65	390
Region VII	111	3	4	4	10	20	152
Totals	1,352	59	83	27	164	269	1,954[1]
Placed with Children's Aid Society for special reasons—							
C.A.S., Vancouver	44	1	.....	6	2	14	67
C.C.A.S., Vancouver	26	.....	.....	5	4	14	49
F.C.S., Victoria	42	4	.....	5	.....	9	60
Totals	112	5	.....	16	6	37	176
In institutions—							
B.I.S. and G.I.S.	17	6	.....	1	.....	.....	24
Oakalla	9	3	.....	.....	.....	2	14
P.M.H.	3	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	4
Woodlands	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Crease Clinic	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Totals	36	9	.....	2	1	2	50
Out of Province with foster-parents	41	1	16	.....	1	1	60
On active service or otherwise independent	21	4	19	1	1	1	47
Grand totals	1,562	78	118	46	173	310	2,287

[1] *Maintenance required for 1,678.*

During the same period the three Children's Aid Societies cared for 2,982 children and have 2,185 remaining at the end of the fiscal year.

In total, these statistics establish that only about 2.82 per 1,000 of British Columbia's estimated population are children cared for apart from their own parents. This in itself is reassuring. There has not been a drop in the number of children cared for by the societies and the Superintendent during the past few years, but the increases have been low in comparison to the growth in population. This encouraging picture can largely be credited to (1) the accelerated adoption programme; (2) persistent efforts made by all staff to return children to their parents at the earliest possible time; and (3) equally persistent staff efforts to see that, before any child is admitted to care, steps are taken to strengthen and improve the family situation so that parents and children can stay together as a revitalized unit.

ADOPTION PLACEMENTS

Four hundred and seventy-three children, ranging in age from 15 days to 14 years, were placed by the Division. This is eighty-three more placements than last year and 145 more than the year preceding.

Table II.—Number and Age of Children Placed for Adoption, April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958.

Child Welfare Division total placements, 473.

Region	Under 1 Month	1–2 Months	3–5 Months	6–11 Mont's	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	6 Years	7 Years	8 Years	9 Years	10 Years	11 Years	12 Years	14 Years	Total
I	42	15	3	4	2	2	3	—	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	78
II	94	22	8	8	3	3	3	1	3	2	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	151
III	41	7	14	3	5	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74
IV	28	9	4	3	6	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	55
V	16	5	2	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	32
VI	35	11	6	5	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	62
VII	6	—	3	—	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16
Yukon	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Totals	264	70	41	27	19	13	11	2	7	6	1	2	5	2	1	1	1	473

The emphasis placed upon adoption is further apparent in the increasing number and widening age range of children placed for adoption by the Division during the past five years, as shown in the following table:—

Table III.—Children Placed for Adoption, 1953/54 to 1957/58

Age-group	1957/58		1956/57		1955/56		1954/55		1953/54	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Under 15 days	174	36.5	151	38.7	112	33.9	77	21.3	44	17.2
15 days to 1 month	90	18.9	81	20.7	72	21.8	81	22.7	64	25.0
1 to 2 months	70	14.7	68	17.7	64	19.7	98	27.4	77	30.7
3 to 5 months	41	8.6	26	6.6	34	10.3	48	13.4	27	10.5
6 to 11 months	27	5.7	21	5.4	27	8.2	31	8.6	30	11.0
1 to 2 years	32	6.9	24	6.0	10	3.0	12	3.3	7	2.7
3 to 4 years	13	2.7	11	2.8	5	1.5	5	1.4	4	1.5
Over 5 years	26	5.4	8	2.0	6	1.8	5	1.4	3	1.3
Total placements	473	—	390	—	330	—	357	—	256	—

In the table above can be noted the steady rise in the percentage of children placed for adoption directly from hospital, and the steady increase also in the number over the age of 5 years for whom the security of adoption was found.

In addition to the 473 children placed by Child Welfare Division, the three Children's Aid Societies placed 329, making a total of 802 placements during the last twelve months—131 more than last year and 137 more than the year preceding. These figures are tangible proof of the emphasis being given to adoption.

AGREEMENT WITH YUKON TERRITORY *RE* ADOPTION

A most satisfactory agreement has been reached with the Yukon Territory about the adoption placement of British Columbia children by residents of the Yukon. Home studies made by the Superintendent of Child Welfare in the Yukon, when approved, are submitted to the Division. When a family is chosen for a child, the adopting parents travel to the child to complete the arrangements. The adoption order is then applied for by the adopting parents to the Yukon Courts. This year five satisfactory placements were made under this agreement. We have been particularly happy to receive from the Yukon applications from several homes of the Roman Catholic faith, because we still have not enough homes throughout British Columbia to take care of all Roman Catholic children available for adoption.

MANY CHILDREN AND PARENTS REUNITED UPON DISCHARGE

The figures on children discharged from care indicate success in reuniting families as well as creating new families through adoption for wards. Three hundred and ninety-eight, or over half, of the 702 children who went out of the care of the Superintendent returned to their own homes; 150 wards under the "Protection of Children Act" who had been placed for adoption in previous years were adopted by Court order. Of the remaining 154 discharged, ninety-five children reached the age of 21 years or married; fifty-seven were returned or transferred to another agency or institution for special care; one ward was killed in a hunting accident; and another, a grossly retarded child awaiting placement in The Woodlands School, died.

A similar ratio is found in the three societies' figures. Of the 797 children discharged from the care of the Children's Aid Societies, 393 returned to their parents.

Table IV.—Availability of Adoption Homes, 1957/58

Region	Homes Awaiting Placement during Year		Homes in Which Placement Made		Homes Closed during Year		Homes Awaiting Placement at Mar. 31, 1958	
	Protestant	Roman Catholic	Protestant	Roman Catholic	Protestant	Roman Catholic	Protestant	Roman Catholic
I	104	12	71	7	17	3	16	2
II	188	18	137	14	8	1	43	3
III	82	17	62	12	5	2	15	2
IV	62	12	46	9	5	1	11	2
V	36	9	26	6	4	.....	6	3
VI	93	10	55	7	7	1	30	2
VII	19	.....	12	4	4	.....	3	.....
Yukon	7	2	3	2	1	.....	3	.....
Totals	591	80	412	61	51	8	127	14
	671		473		59		141	

CHANGING NEEDS OF PREVENTIVE PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

All phases of child welfare point up the need for reappraisal of staff functions and duties, but the urgency becomes clear when the changing needs of children apart from their families are considered. The average child in foster-home care to-day presents a widely different range of problems to those of fifteen years ago. To delay planning for the essential modifications in Branch function and practice for which they call is to jeopardize the future stability of services.

The chronological age and legal status of the 2,287 children in the care of the Superintendent as at March 31st, 1958, is seen in Table V.

Table V.—Age and Legal Status of Children in the Care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare as at March 31st, 1958

	0–5 Months	6–11 Months	1–2 Years	3–5 Years	6–11 Years	12–13 Years	14–17 Years	18–21 Years	Total
P.C.A. wards	10	24	129	199	474	165	415	146	1,562
Non-wards	20	17	36	49	78	21	68	21	310
Before Court	13	12	35	26	48	18	21	.....	173
"Juvenile Delinquents Act"	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	6	45	20	78
Wards and non-wards of Children's Aid Societies in care of Superintendent of Child Welfare	1	5	11	13	21	10	26	31	118
Wards of other Provinces	.....	.....	1	2	7	11	20	5	46
Totals	44	58	212	289	635	231	595	223	2,287

Age, though not the major factor in planning for a child, is particularly important from an administrative standpoint since it is one indication of the varied resources the agency must develop to meet the needs of children entrusted to it. For instance, if the majority of the children shown in Table V above were babies needing permanent homes, our emphasis would have to be on the development of an even more accelerated adoption programme. This is not the case, however. The Superintendent of Child Welfare's guardianship in British Columbia fortunately extends to 21 years, and 223 of the total children in care are within three years of that age.

LENGTH OF STAY IN CARE LESS

On the surface these boys and girls might seem not unlike those in the same age-group in care ten to fifteen years ago. However, there are a number of important differences and all affect planning. The majority of children this age then had been in care since early infancy. They "grew up" in foster homes because not sufficient recognition was given to the importance of early adoption. Many remained in one foster home and enjoyed a good family relationship, but the majority lacked the social and legal security provided for children apart from their parents to-day through adoption.

The average 18- to 21-year-old boy and girl now in agency care has not known a long history of foster-home placement. A high number are admitted through Court process under the "Protection of Children Act" after they have reached the age of 12 years, and almost invariably after years of family strife. Others are committed to the Superintendent of Child Welfare under the "Juvenile Delinquents Act" in their early teens after they have been in trouble with the law and in the hope that foster-home placement will help them be diverted from the path leading to delinquency. More and more the Courts have tended to look to child-caring agencies as a major resource in the prevention of delinquency. Agencies have met this challenge with commendable readiness and skill. Each has young people under 21 who are self-supporting or on their way to becoming so. Without this help, undoubtedly these boys and girls would have continued to be a source of disturbance to police, communities, and themselves.

HELP TO CHILDREN A COMPLEX SERVICE

"Help" is not in the provision of maintenance alone. It is in the diligent search for the right home for each child, in the earnest effort to rebuild a child's trust and feeling of self-worth; it is in the unceasing endeavours to bring a child to an appreciation of his ability to live a satisfying and constructive life within his maximum potentiality.

About two-thirds of the older boys and girls in care are self-supporting and look to workers for counselling and guidance comparable to that which an adolescent in his own home requires. Many others are completing vocational or educational training, and when this is finished, these, too, will take their place in business and industry with a normal degree of independence.

FOSTER HOMES ARE NOT INDICATED FOR ALL CHILDREN

Of the remaining some 100 boys and girls between 18 and 21 years, about 10 per cent are children for whom little can be done in foster homes. Some suffer extreme physical handicap or mental retardation. As their condition worsens, highly specialized and costly foster care usually must be found for them. Others have been so damaged mentally and (or) emotionally that their reactions remain uncontrolled and childlike. They are restive and disorganized in their goals; no foster-parents can control them, and, as they grow older, too often their delinquent behaviour becomes more flagrant.

Never before have child welfare agencies been called upon to care for so many physically, mentally, and emotionally handicapped children. Research would probably

find that about the same ratio of 10 to 15 per cent physical, mental, and emotional handicap is constant throughout all age-groups of children in agency care to-day. Diagnostic skills must be developed for earlier detection, and treatment facilities, other than foster homes, must be available if these boys and girls and their communities are to be protected.

Many of the observations made above about older children in care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare can be made about the 826 now between 12 and 17 years of age, except that an even higher percentage has been in care a relatively short period of time. About one-fourth of these will ultimately be returning to their parents' home, but for the majority of the remaining, foster-family care must be provided for varying lengths of time, depending upon their abilities and capabilities.

Six per cent, or fifty-one children, in this age-group were committed to the care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare under the "Juvenile Delinquents Act." That frequently their behaviour in the home, school, and community for some time had caused concern suggests a gap in community resources for detecting problems early as well as in facilities to treat them. Many adolescents are responding well to foster-home care and are not likely to repeat their misdemeanours. About fifteen of these fifty-one children, however, and a probable similar number of wards under the "Protection of Children Act" in the same age-group represent the "troubled youth" whose behaviour reflects in many instances the troubles of our time. These young people cannot make good use of adoption or foster-home placement. So unhappy have been their experiences thus far with a confusion of parents, step-parents, and successive sets of parents that they no longer can believe in or respond to the consideration and affection of wholesome family living. Their urges are against the adult world, and they are lost to society unless through research, observation, and treatment more can be learned about constitutional as well as environmental factors in their behaviour.

TREATMENT FACILITIES LACKING

Many times in the past the Superintendent has stressed the lack of treatment facilities for children in British Columbia, and each year the need becomes more urgent. A disproportionate amount of workers' time is being spent placing and replacing this relatively small group from one foster home to another, and a disproportionate amount of the money available for the care of children is spent to provide a mere shelter. Chronologically too young and as yet not "sick" enough to be accepted into existing mental-hospital programmes, their every action tells how they need the protection and safety of a properly structured and staffed treatment institution.

YOUNGER CHILDREN HAVE SPECIAL PROBLEMS TOO

In the preceding Table V it is shown that a large number of children in care are between 6 and 11 years. As is seen in the age-group of children placed for adoption (Table II), an increasing number have achieved adoption this year, but such a plan is not simple of execution. Many are "troubled" little people with trusts already badly shaken, and communicating with them takes time, ingenuity, and skill. For others, the barrier to adoption is racial origin or religious affiliation, and there are some, as the twins who suffer a congenital sight defect or the 8-year-old little girl totally deaf, whose adoption placement may never be possible.

SISTERS AND BROTHERS NEED EACH OTHER

In the same 6- to 11-year group there are a larger number of multiple families being cared for than ever before. Some will be returning to their own homes. Whether this is the plan, or adoption, or permanent foster-home care, it is essential that they be helped,

while still young, to understand why they are separated from their parents; otherwise, they become candidates for the " troubled youth."

MEETING NEEDS OF THE BABY AND SMALL CHILD

The relatively few children in care under 2 years of age is proof of where workers' time is now being devoted and of the effectiveness of our adoption programme. No baby is placed in a foster home if his parents are relinquishing him and he is otherwise ready for adoption. Ten to fifteen years ago there were more children in care under the age of 3 years than in any other age-group. To-day, in spite of the heavy demands made upon staff, the picture has been completely reversed and extraordinarily low figures have been maintained. (*See* Table VI.)

Table VI.—Number of Children under 3 Years of Age in Foster-home Care during Years 1955 to 1958, Inclusive

Year	15 Days to 5 Mos.	6 to 11 Mos.	1 to 2 Yrs.
1955	36	54	138
1956	35	59	181
1957	34	50	200
1958	44	58	212

The cost to the Provincial Government of maintaining children for the fiscal year was as follows:—

Table VII.—Cost of Maintaining Children

Gross cost of maintenance of children in Child Welfare Division foster homes	$905,751.65
Gross cost to Provincial Government of maintenance of children with Provincial residence in care of Children's Aid Societies	639,929.16
Gross cost to Provincial Government of maintenance of children with municipal residence in care of Children's Aid Societies	601,638.84
Gross cost of transportation of children in care of Superintendent	11,271.07
Gross cost of hospitalization of new-born infants being permanently planned for by Superintendent	25,302.00
Grants to sundry homes	1,100.00
Gross expenditure	$2,184,992.72
Less collections and refunds	374,300.09
Net cost to Provincial Government	$1,810,692.63

ADOPTION ORDERS GRANTED

In addition to the 802 adoption placements, the Children's Aid Societies and Social Welfare Branch supervised homes during the probationary period and assisted in the preparation of the Superintendent's report to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 1,152 applications for adoption orders and in sixteen applications made to Courts outside the Province. One hundred and nine orders only were for children placed through channels other than Social Welfare Branch and the societies. This accomplishment is the direct result of a child welfare programme which is well accepted by communities, by the Court, and by members of allied professions.

Table VIII.—Legally Completed Adoptions throughout the Province, according to the Type of Placement, during the Fiscal Year

Area	Agency	Blood Relative	Unauthorized Person	Total
Region I	61	35	9	105
Region II	106	73	27	206
Region III	70	25	4	99
Region IV	40	20	5	65
Region V	34	26	7	67
Region VI	67	38	6	111
Region VII	20	10	4	34
Totals	398	227	62	687
Vancouver Children's Aid Society	190	83	29	302
Catholic Children's Aid Society	53	5	9	67
Victoria Children's Aid Society	64	23	9	96
Totals	307	111	47	465
Child placed in Province but order granted elsewhere	10	5	1	16
Total adoptions for year	715	343	110	1,168

ADOPTION CONSENT REVOKED

The new "Adoption Act," a sound, inclusive piece of legislation, offers maximum protection to all parties concerned. Of the 1,152 adoption reports submitted by the Superintendent to the Supreme Court, only one application was disallowed and the child returned to his mother. This was a situation involving the child of a European, recently immigrated unwed mother. All ordinary steps to aid her reach a firm decision as to relinquishment had been taken, and it was thought she understood, but in this particular mother's homeland, adoption with its irrevocable finality, as we know it, does not exist. Children may be left for years in institutions, to be claimed later by the parents. That the child has grown up deprived of his right to parental nearness is not a factor considered by the parents who later claim custody.

This one unhappy reversal in decision showed the need for new procedural safeguards. These have been established and should ensure adequate communication with the foreign-speaking parent and keep to a minimum the risk of revocation of consent.

"CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS ACT"

Administration of this Act has altered as the trend moves more and more toward adoption placement of the child born out of wedlock. Usually the mother seeks help from the father of her child for confinement expenses only, and this means that fewer agreements and orders need be enforced over a long period of time. A higher number of mothers, moreover, who keep their child marry someone other than the child's father within a relatively short time and often see settlement preferable to a continuation of monthly payments. Adoption of the child jointly by the mother and husband is frequent, and in many of these applications for an adoption order the child does gain a father's protection and love.

A total of $59,597.75 was received and disbursed by the Superintendent under the "Children of Unmarried Parents Act" during the year on forty orders and fifty-seven agreements. In this amount is included $3,196.40 received in settlements this fiscal year.

Table IX.—Children Born Out of Wedlock by Age of Mother (Including Non-enfranchised Indians), British Columbia, 1953–58

Year	Age-group										Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	Under 15	15–19 Years	20–24 Years	25–29 Years	30–34 Years	35–39 Years	40–44 Years	45 and Over	Not Stated	Total	
1953	13	435	648	370	246	138	42	1	3	1,896	59.7
1954	11	486	649	432	275	141	44	4	.....	2,042	62.0
1955	13	542	665	380	271	140	48	2	1	2,062	60.4
1956	16	591	626	441	315	167	47	3	1	2,207	60.9
1956/57[1]	11	598	606	436	306	164	50	3	2	2,176	59.6
1957/58[1]	19	718	727	501	301	187	50	7		2,510	64.0

[1] Fiscal year.

Table X.—Children Born Out of Wedlock by Age of Mother (Excluding Non-enfranchised Indians), British Columbia, 1953–58

Year	Age-group										Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	Under 15	15–19 Years	20–24 Years	25–29 Years	30–34 Years	35–39 Years	40–44 Years	45 and Over	Not Stated	Total	
1953	10	317	485	287	192	106	32	.....	2	1,431	47.5
1954	6	379	493	331	205	105	34	1	.....	1,554	49.8
1955	11	425	504	287	204	105	34	.....	1	1,571	48.6
1956	12	464	453	327	245	132	38	2	.....	1,673	48.7
1956/57[1]	7	477	457	337	250	124	39	2	2	1,695	49.0
1957/58[1]	16	584	553	376	253	147	43	3		1,975	52.4

[1] Fiscal year.

The above statistics, obtained from the Division of Vital Statistics, are not in all respects comparable because figures for the last two calendar years are not yet available. However, they are sufficiently valid to indicate trends and allow for some observations to be made.

The increase of births out of wedlock during the six years is relatively low in relation to the estimated population growth of the Province in the same period. The rather sharp increase which occurred in 1957/58, nevertheless, must be termed a matter for community concern.

It is also to be observed from Tables IX and X that about one-quarter of the total births out of wedlock in the six-year period were children born to Indian unwed mothers, and that approximately the same percentage prevails throughout each year. Tables IX and X undoubtedly include a number of children born to Indian mothers with white status, but this is a difficult figure to estimate because of the many social and legal complexities of enfranchisement and assimilation. The over-all statistical picture, nevertheless, seems to indicate a too high rate of births out of wedlock in proportion to the total Indian population of the Province. Workers in all regions, and particularly those in localities where a concentration of Indians dwell, know well the cultural, economic, and social pressures that contribute to this situation. Nor is this the only symptom of a weakened family life in the Indian community. There are sharply increased numbers of Indian children having to be apprehended from serious neglect conditions. (In two of Social Welfare Branch's seven regions, 60 per cent or more of all children coming into care are Indian.) A disproportionate number of Indian boys and girls are in industrial schools, and far too many Indian men and women are appearing in Courts daily charged with offences indicative of self-conflict and inability to cope with newly found freedoms and responsibilities.

A great deal is being done by the two senior governments as well as voluntary organizations to meet these problems, but there is a crying need for accelerated pro-

grammes of public health, education, and welfare. These must be carried out on, as well as off, reservations if, in the Indian's struggle for equality and integration, he is not to lose for all time his proud heritage of culture and tradition.

CHILDREN IN SCHOOL DORMITORY, NEW DENVER

During the year eleven children of Sons of Freedom Doukhobor parents were apprehended by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for non-attendance at school and committed to the Superintendent of Child Welfare under the " Protection of Children Act." This brought the total cared for during the year to 103. Seventeen, upon reaching the alleged age of 15, returned to their parents by Court order, and as at March 31st, 1958, eighty-six remain. These children have not been placed in foster homes because it seemed best to keep them together as a group and because non-Freedomite Doukhobor families, fearful of retaliation from the children's parents, have not offered their homes. Two, however, this year went to live with an older brother and his family who have left the sect of their parents to become members of the larger Orthodox Doukhobor community, where education is seen as a basic requirement.

The Doukhobor children in the dormitory at New Denver attend the local school, take part in all its projects, and generally have become well-liked members of this attractive town in the Kootenays. Extraordinarily few disciplinary problems have presented themselves, and the children, almost without exception, are diligent students.

FAIRBRIDGE FARM CHILDREN

There are but sixteen remaining in care of the 350 children brought to British Columbia some fifteen years ago under the auspices of the Fairbridge Farm School child immigration project. Most of these boys and girls knew separation from parents and home at a very early age, lived for years in institutions both in the United Kingdom and later for a time in British Columbia. Settling into a foster home after the project was terminated in 1949 was not easy for them. Many as adults now are managing well. Others are known to have a good many personal problems. Much could be learned through research about the effectiveness or otherwise of such child immigration schemes as a method of caring for the dependent child.

HUNGARIAN CHILDREN

From April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, thirty-six Hungarian children were cared for by the three Children's Aid Societies and Social Welfare Branch. As at April 1st, 1958, twenty-six remain.

Table XI.—Hungarian Children Cared For

Agency	Number
Social Welfare Branch	5
Family and Children's Service, Victoria	14
Children's Aid Society, Vancouver	3
Catholic Children's Aid Society, Vancouver	14
Total	36

Under the " Protection of Children Act," section 43, the Superintendent of Child Welfare " is empowered to act in all matters as parent or guardian " with respect to any immigrant child " for whom there is no legal parent or guardian in the Province." In the last twenty years this section has been used effectively in connection with the British and Jewish children who were brought to Canada as war refugees from overseas.

The Hungarian child's situation differed from these other child immigration experiences in many ways. No planning prior to departure from Europe was possible. Many had been separated from their parents in the general confusion of revolution and almost inadvertently had arrived in Canada as camps for displaced persons were being cleared in Europe. In addition, although chronologically under the age of 18, most of these boys and girls had long since finished with childhood interests and seemed experienced and disillusioned far beyond their years. Few had either education or job training, and language was a barrier to communication. The years of camp living in Hungary had dulled ambitions, and in some instances had left them ill equipped emotionally and morally for successful adjustment in any community. Placement, as a result, was extremely difficult, and few successes can be reported thus far. The hazards inherent in any child immigration plan are many, for the child, for the parent left in the homeland, as well as for the country receiving the child. They are manifold and almost insurmountable, however, when the project is carried out under the circumstances as they prevailed in the Hungarian crisis.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

There has been no change in policy with respect to Family Allowances for children in care. Workers and foster-parents see in the Allowances a real resource, and it has proved invaluable to the child learning to manage his savings and spending.

Table XII.—Dispersal of Family Allowances Received during the Year

Balance on hand as at January 1st, 1957		$45,143.78
Receipts for the period January 1st, 1957, to December 31st, 1957		57,662.46
Expenditures for the above period		50,896.75
Parents—		
Foster-mothers	$30,005.00	
Adopting mothers	2,915.72	
Natural mothers	4,611.03	
Transferred to Children's Aid Societies	1,950.86	
Refunds to Family Allowance Board	121.00	
Recreational equipment, etc.	6,558.93	
Paid to children on discharge	1,715.30	
Educational	519.39	
Gifts	195.78	
Special clothing	607.54	
Miscellaneous	1,696.20	
	$50,896.75	
Balance on hand as at December 31st, 1957		$51,909.49

Number of children involved in the accumulated balances, 1,577.

OTHER PHASES OF CHILD WELFARE DIVISION ADMINISTRATION

A considerable increase is shown in Table XIII below in the number of referrals received this year from (1) Supreme Court *re* custody disputes; (2) Canadian immigration *re* the proposed immigration to British Columbia of a child apart from his parents; (3) Division of Vital Statistics *re* the legitimation of children; (4) other Provinces relative to repatriation of the transient or runaway child; and (5) other agencies and organizations relative to sundry related protective services.

Table XIII.—Services Given by Children's Aid Societies and Social Welfare Branch Related to Child Protection

	C.A.S.	S.W.B.	Total	Incomplete as at Mar. 31, 1958		
				C.A.S.	S.W.B.	Total
Custody reports	48	49	97	7	12	19
Immigration	114	99	213	32	48	80
Legitimation	3	6	9	1	1	2
Repatriation	35	45	80	3	10	13
Sundry	101	202	303	45	60	105

CHILD WELFARE INTERPROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

A very fine working relationship exists between the Superintendent of Child Welfare and the Directors of Child Welfare in other Provinces and in the Yukon. The interprovincial movement of children in agency care is carried out in most instances simply and well. With the exception of three of the ten Provinces, an arrangement in now in effect whereby an inclusive *per capita per diem* rate for each child is reciprocally accepted. Billing and payment are thus simplified and children are assured all services required. Few administrative complications arise to interfere with social planning when wards move with their foster-parents away from the legal guardian's jurisdiction. This achievement, in the main, is a result of the biennial meetings of the Directors of Child Welfare of Canada.

Other advantages accruing from these meetings and from interprovincial negotiations in specific situations are that each Province has gained in knowledge and understanding of other Province's policies and legislation and each has a greater appreciation of the need for a desirable degree of uniformity nationally in these two important areas of child welfare administration.

As at March 31st, 1958, sixty wards of the Superintendent and Children's Aid Societies were residing outside British Columbia with their foster-parents and forty-six wards of other Provinces were in British Columbia.

DECENTRALIZATION OF SERVICES

Plans were carried out this year to implement the long anticipated decentralization of phases of child welfare administration. As the seven regions gain assurance in the handling of problems formerly directed by the Division, current functions will alter. New knowledge and skills will be developed and joint efforts should make possible an improved preventive service, providing recognition is given to changed staff needs.

1957/58 has been an active and full year. A great deal could have been included in this report about successful plans made for individual children and about work done with their families and foster or adopting parents to portray the ingenuity and resourcefulness of staff. These achievements are now a matter of record. This report, therefore, has been kept purposefully to an accounting of the administration of child welfare legislation and programme. There was progress to be reported in both areas. The year has been one in which special effort was made to consolidate services and put into effect a number of administrative changes, and certain obstacles to the future stability of the Branch have been noted. When these are successfully overcome, Social Welfare Branch's services to families and children can be the chief bulwark against future social ills in the communities of this Province.

In conclusion, the Superintendent expresses appreciation of the conscientious and thoughtful work being done for children by both professional and clerical staffs in Div-

ision and field. High praise and unending thanks are also due the many foster-families throughout the Province who give so freely of their homes, hearts, and minds. Without them as co-workers, no programme would be possible. With them and through their loving, understanding, and care of a child, miracles are worked daily.

(MISS) RUBY MCKAY,
Superintendent of Child Welfare.

OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE, BLIND PERSONS' ALLOWANCES, DISABLED PERSONS' ALLOWANCES, AND SUPPLEMENTARY ASSISTANCE

GENERAL

A review of the work of the administration for the period April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958, indicates that it was a very active year. This is mainly the result of two separate increases in the basic pension—one from $40 to $46 a month as from July 1st, 1957, and the other from $46 to $55 a month as from November 1st, 1957. There were also other changes in the Acts and regulations which caused a great deal of extra work reviewing files. These changes are outlined more specifically in another section of this report.

In contrast to figures in our most recent annual reports, it is interesting to note that the number of applications for Old-age Assistance shows a decided increase over the previous year. During the year 1957/58 a total of 2,545 applications were received, as compared with 2,210 during the year 1956/57. The total number on our payroll, including transfers from other Provinces, does, however, show a slight drop from 7,029 to 6,907 between March 31st, 1957, and March 31st, 1958.

A comparison of the number of applications received for Blind Persons' Allowance with those received for Old-age Assistance indicates that the trend was just the opposite during the year under review. A similar situation is evident when one compares the total number on the payroll in each category. In other words, while the number of Old-age Assistance applications received increased, the number of blind applications decreased from eighty in 1956/57 to sixty in 1957/58. In respect of the total number on the payroll, the figure for Old-age Assistance shows a decrease, whereas the figure for recipients of Blind Allowances shows an increase from 482 as at the end of March, 1957, to 505 as at the end of March, 1958.

Disabled Persons' Allowances increased both in the number of applications received and in total number on the payroll. During the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1957, 430 applications were received, and the total on the payroll at the year-end was 1,067. During the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1958, 475 applications were received, and the total on the payroll at the year-end was 1,281.

A review of the records in reference to supplementary assistance shows that while the number of applications received during the current fiscal year decreased over the previous year, the total number on our payroll as at March 31st, 1958, increased. A total of 1,876 applications was received, in comparison with 2,216 the previous year, and the total number on our payroll, including transfers from Alberta and Saskatchewan, stood at 28,480 as at March 31st, 1958, as compared with 28,059 at the end of the previous fiscal year.

It will be noted from the foregoing that our over-all case load still continues to show a steady increase.

A study of the financial statement reveals an increase in amounts paid under all categories, with the exception of supplementary assistance paid to Old-age Assistance cases, and this shows a decrease in excess of $91,000 between March 31st, 1957, and March 31st, 1958. Old-age Assistance payments, on the other hand, increased by an amount exceeding $292,000 during the same period, which means that the net increase in payments to the Old-age Assistance case load was over $200,000. Payments of Blind Allowances increased by approximately $13,000, and supplementary assistance payments to this group increased by approximately $7,000 during the year. The approximate amount of the increase to disabled persons was $117,000 in allowances and $57,000 in supplementary assistance.

In reference to the Old-age Assistance, Blind, and Disabled categories, it should be noted that the main reason for the increased expenditure was the increase in basic payments as from July 1st and November 1st, 1957, as described at the beginning of this section.

As far as the Old Age Security group is concerned, it is noted that supplementary assistance payments show a net increase of approximately $135,500.

In summarizing the financial aspects of the report, the total increase in payments to all categories amounted to approximately $529,500 for the fiscal year 1957/58 as compared with the previous fiscal year.

Looking to the future when not only more people, but also more people for a longer time, will be the concern of governments and administrations of Old-age Assistance programmes and other welfare services, it appears that an increase in case load and an increase in expenditure is inevitable.

CHANGES IN THE ACTS AND REGULATIONS

The present fiscal year was distinguished from other years by the numerous major amendments to the Federal Acts and regulations and comparable changes in the Provincial regulations governing the payment of supplementary assistance and health services.

1. The maximum amount to which the Federal Government would share in payment to any recipient of Old-age Assistance, Blind or Disabled Persons' Allowance was increased from $40 to $46 a month as from July 1st, 1957, and further increased to $55 a month from November 1st, 1957. Maximum allowable annual income limits were raised to absorb these increments and, in addition, were further raised to allow for more outside income. Provincial regulations for supplementary assistance and health services were amended accordingly. The following table illustrates the changes in income ceilings with respective dates:—

Marital Status	Maximum Allowable Annual Income, Including Assistance or Allowance									Supplementary Assistance for Old Age Security Recipients		
	Old-age Assistance			Disabled Persons' Allowance			Blind Persons' Allowance					
	Prior to July 1, 1957	Effective July 1, 1957	Effective Nov. 1, 1957	Prior to July 1, 1957	Effective July 1, 1957	Effective Nov. 1, 1957	Prior to July 1, 1957	Effective July 1, 1957	Effective Nov. 1, 1957	Prior to July 1, 1957	Effective July 1, 1957	Effective Nov. 1, 1957
Single	$720 (840)	$840 (912)	$960 (1,020)	$720 (720)*	$840 (840)*	$960 (960)*	$960 (960)†	$1,080 (1,080)†	$1,200 (1,200)†	($840)	($912)	($1,020)
Unmarried with a dependent child or children	720 (840)	840 (912)	960 (1,020)	720 (720)*	840 (840)*	960 (960)*	1,160 (1,160)†	1,560 (1,560)†	1,680 (1,680)†	(840)	(912)	(1,020)
Married to a sighted spouse	1,200 (1,440)	1,380 (1,584)	1,620 (1,800)	1,200 (1,200)*	1,380 (1,380)*	1,620 (1,620)*	1,560 (1,560)†	1,740 (1,740)†	1,980 (1,980)†	(1,440)	(1,584)	(1,800)
Married to a disabled spouse	1,200 (1,500)	1,380 (1,380)*	1,620 (1,620)*	1,200 (1,200)*	1,380 (1,380)*	1,620 (1,620)*	1,560 (1,560)*†	1,740 (1,740)*†	1,980 (1,980)*†	(1,500)	(1,380)*	(1,620)*
Married to a blind spouse	1,320 (1,620)	1,740 (1,740)†	1,980 (1,980)†	1,320 (1,320)*†	1,740 (1,740)*†	1,980 (1,980)*†	1,680 (1,680)†	1,860 (1,860)†	2,100 (2,100)†	(1,860)	(1,740)†	(1,980)†

NOTE.—No partial supplementary assistance paid to blind and disabled—paid at maximum rate only.

Key:—

( )=Maximum allowable annual income, including supplementary assistance.

*=Excluding supplementary assistance to Disabled.

†=Excluding supplementary assistance to Blind.

2. In consequence of a previous meeting of the Provincial Advisory Boards, several amendments to the Old-age Assistance regulations and comparable amendments to the Blind Persons Regulations and Disabled Persons Regulations became effective July 1st, 1957. The significant changes are as follows:—

(*a*) Briefly, a recalculation of income is now permitted:—

(i) When the spouse of a married recipient becomes a recipient of Old Age Security pension:

(ii) When one spouse dies:

(iii) When the personal property has been reduced by payments of accounts for medical, hospital, professional, or practical nurse, drugs prescribed for the recipient or his spouse, or for the funeral expenses of the spouse:

(iv) Where personal property is converted to newly acquired real property:

(*b*) The income calculation relative to personal property of a married Old-age Assistance recipient is now to be made under the Blind Persons Regulations or the Disabled Persons Regulations when his spouse is in receipt of Blind Persons' or Disabled Persons' Allowance. Heretofore, the calculation was based on the Old-age Assistance Regulations.

(*c*) Certain contributions to a recipient may now be exempted where those contributions are made for the purpose of paying for the lodging of the recipient:

(*d*) A request for an increase may now be made by any person on behalf of a recipient who desires an increase in assistance or allowance to which he may be entitled:

(*e*) Payments in respect of the assistance or allowance and social allowance may not overlap more than one month.

In addition to the above amendments, the definition of when a person is deemed to be totally and permanently disabled was redefined in the Disabled Persons Regulations.

3. On November 1st, 1957, the " Old-age Assistance Act " was amended by Parliament to reduce the basic residence requirement from twenty to ten years in Canada. (No amendments in this respect were necessary to the Blind Persons or Disabled Persons Acts as this provision under these Acts had been in effect for some time.) The Old-age Assistance Regulations were subsequently amended by making the necessary changes to conform to this change in the Act.

4. The " Disabled Persons' Allowances Act " was also amended on November 1st, 1957, to permit contributions, subject to the regulations, in respect of persons in a home for the aged, an infirmary, or an institution for the care of incurables. The Disabled Persons Regulations were subsequently altered to permit these contributions.

5. At the Provincial level, in addition to legislating to provide for the changes occurring during the year in the Federal Acts and regulations, the regulations providing for supplementary assistance and health services were extended in May to include blind and disabled persons who had completed three years' residence in British Columbia even though the Blind Persons' Allowance or Disabled Persons' Allowance was granted in another Province. Heretofore, these benefits were not available in this category until the recipient became eligible for Old Age Security pension.

GRAPHIC PRESENTATION COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1952, TO MARCH 31ST, 1958

Following will be found a graphic presentation of the various aspects of the administration of Old-age Assistance since the coming into force of " The Old Age Assistance Act " in January, 1952.

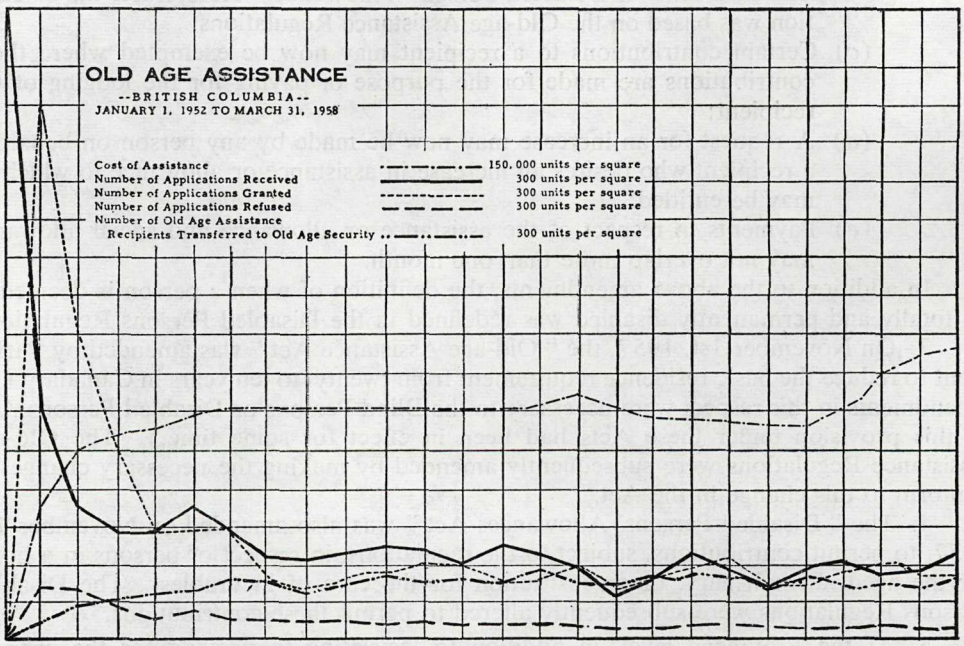
On examining the various line graphs prior to March 31st, 1957, it will be noted that during each year a definite cycle is indicated. The line graphs rise to the month of

June and then fall generally during the latter part of each calendar year. Details relative to these fluctuations have been explained in previous reports.

In the current fiscal year the line graphs reflect the numerous changes in the Acts and regulations outlined briefly elsewhere in this report. During the latter part of 1957 a marked rise in the line graphs shows the effect of these changes in basic assistance or allowance rates, income limits, and residence requirements.

The "number of applications" graph rises noticeably due to the fact that the increase in the maximum allowable annual incomes and the decrease in residence requirements permitted more persons to become eligible.

Further, larger payments of basic allowances were made. Economic conditions also precluded the older person from employment, and, as a result, the number of persons receiving full assistance increased by 2 per cent over the previous fiscal year to 85 per cent of the total case load for this year (*see* Table XIII). These changes are reflected in the rise in the line graph for cost.



STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1958

OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	2,545
Applications granted	2,124[1]
Applications not granted (refused, withdrawn, etc.)	495

[1] Includes some left over from previous year.

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*) British Columbia recipients—	
Returned to British Columbia	27
Reinstated	111
Suspended	240
Deaths	284
Transferred to other Provinces	56
Transferred to Old Age Security	1,795
Total number on payroll at end of fiscal year	6,703
(*b*) Other-Province recipients—	
Transferred to British Columbia	87
Reinstated	26
Suspended	13
Deaths	5
Transferred out of British Columbia	75
Transferred to Old Age Security	56
(*c*) Total number of British Columbia and other-Province recipients on payroll at end of fiscal year	6,907

Table III.—Reasons Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not of age	100	20.20
Unable to prove age	3	0.60
Not sufficient residence	2	0.40
Income in excess	188	37.97
Unable to prove residence	5	1.01
Transfer of property	.....	.....
Receiving War Veterans' Allowance	4	0.80
Information refused	24	4.84
Application withdrawn	88	17.80
Applicants died before grant	25	5.05
Whereabouts unknown	7	1.41
Eligible for Old Age Security	26	5.28
Assistance from private sources	.....	.....
Receiving Old Age Security	12	2.42
Miscellaneous	11	2.22
Total	495	100.00

Table IV.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	993	46.78
Female	1,130	53.22
Total	2,123	100.00

Table V.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	822	38.73
Single	330	15.54
Widows	448	21.10
Widowers	134	6.31
Separated	345	16.25
Divorced	44	2.07
Total	2,123	100.00

Table VI.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	175	8.24
Other parts of Canada	430	20.25
British Isles	559	26.33
Other parts of British Empire	6	0.04
United States of America	227	10.69
Other foreign countries	723	34.05
Total	2,123	100.00

Table VII.—Ages at Granting of Assistance

	Number	Per Cent
Age 65	1,021	48.09
Age 66	378	17.80
Age 67	269	12.67
Age 68	256	12.05
Age 69	199	9.39
Total	2,123	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Age 65	23	8.09
Age 66	40	14.08
Age 67	58	20.43
Age 68	75	26.42
Age 69	88	30.98
Total	284	100.00

Table IX.—With Whom New Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living alone	724	34.10
Living with spouse	697	32.83
Living with spouse and children	108	5.18
Living with children	247	11.63
Living with other relatives	112	5.21
Living with others	143	6.73
Living in public institutions	74	3.48
Living in private institutions	18	0.84
Total	2,123	100.00

Table X.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In own house	866	40.79
In rented house	187	8.80
In children's home	238	11.24
In home of other relatives	78	3.67
Boarding	70	3.29
In boarding home	12	0.56
In housekeeping room	347	16.34
In single room (eating out)	66	3.12
In rented suite	168	7.91
In institutions	91	4.28
Total	2,123	100.00

Table XI.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	1,288	60.66
$1 to $250	13	0.61
$251 to $500	43	2.05
$501 to $750	44	2.07
$751 to $1,000	65	3.06
$1,001 to $1,500	130	6.12
$1,501 to $2,000	131	6.17
$2,001 and up	409	19.26
Total	2,123	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	1,050	49.45
$1 to $250	479	22.56
$251 to $500	185	8.74
$501 to $750	120	5.65
$751 to $1,000	84	3.95
$1,001 to $1,500	91	4.28
$1,501 to $2,000	50	2.35
$2,001 and up	64	3.02
Total	2,123	100.00

Table XII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1958, Whose Assistance Is Paid by British Columbia

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	25	12
Saskatchewan	6	13
Manitoba	6	4
Ontario	10	10
Quebec	3	2
New Brunswick	----	----
Nova Scotia	----	1
Prince Edward Island	1	----
Newfoundland	----	----
Northwest Territories	----	----
Yukon Territory	----	----
Total	51	42

Table XIII.—Distribution of British Columbia Recipients according to the Amount of Assistance Received (Basic Assistance, $55)

Amount of Assistance	Per Cent
$55	85.11
$50 to 54.99	4.15
$45 to $49.99	3.25
$40 to $44.99	1.95
$35 to $39.99	1.49
$30 to $34.99	1.44
$25 to $29.99	1.15
$20 to $24.99	0.76
Less than $19.99	0.70
Total	100.00

Blind Persons' Allowances

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	60
Applications granted	51[1]
Applications refused, withdrawn etc.	17[2]

[1] Includes some left over from previous year.
[2] Number still pending not included.

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*)	British Columbia recipients—		
	Suspended		18
	Reinstated		13
	Transferred to other provinces		2
	Returned to British Columbia		1
	Transferred to Old Age Security		17
	Deaths		11
(*b*)	Other-Province recipients—		
	Transferred to British Columbia		10
	Reinstated		14
	Transferred out of British Columbia or suspended		8
	Deaths		---
(*c*)	Total on payroll at end of fiscal year—		
	British Columbia	478	
	Other Province	27	
			505

Table III.—Reasons Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not blind within the meaning of the Act	5	29.42
Income in excess	4	23.52
Applications withdrawn	2	11.76
Eligible for Old Age Security	---	------
Died before grant	---	------
Receiving War Veterans' Allowance	---	------
Information refused	5	29.42
Assistance from private sources	---	------
Receipt of Old Age Security	---	------
Whereabouts unknown	1	5.88
Total	17	100.00

Table IV.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	28	47.46
Female	31	52.54
Total	59	100.00

Table V.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	25	42.39
Single	20	33.89
Widows	4	6.77
Widowers	2	3.38
Separated	7	11.88
Divorced	1	1.69
Total	59	100.00

Table VI.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	21	35.60
Other parts of Canada	15	25.43
British Isles	11	18.64
Other parts of British Empire	---	------
United States of America	3	5.08
Other foreign countries	9	15.25
Total	59	100.00

Table VII.—Ages at Granting of Allowance

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 21	4	6.77
Ages 22 to 30	4	6.77
Ages 31 to 40	2	3.38
Ages 41 to 50	10	16.94
Ages 51 to 60	14	23.72
Ages 61 to 69	25	42.42
Total	59	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Age 21	---	------
Ages 22 to 30	1	8.33
Ages 31 to 40	1	8.33
Ages 41 to 50	1	8.33
Ages 51 to 60	1	8.33
Ages 61 to 69	8	66.68
Total	12	100.00

Table IX.—With Whom New Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living with parents	8	13.56
Living alone	13	22.04
Living with spouse	15	25.44
Living with spouse and children	7	11.88
Living with children	8	13.56
Living with other relatives	3	5.07
Living with others	3	5.07
Living in public institutions	---	------
Living in private institutions	2	3.38
Total	59	100.00

Table X.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In parents' home	6	10.16
In own home	21	35.64
In rented house	4	6.77
In rented suite	5	8.49
In children's home	9	15.27
In home of other relatives	4	6.77
Boarding	2	3.38
In housekeeping room	2	3.38
In boarding home	---	---
In institutions	3	5.07
In single room (eating out)	3	5.07
Total	59	100.00

Table XI.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	41	69.52
$1 to $250	---	---
$251 to $500	2	3.38
$501 to $750	3	5.07
$751 to $1,000	1	1.69
$1,001 to $1,500	1	1.69
$1,501 to $2,000	2	3.38
$2,001 and up	9	15.27
Total	59	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	36	61.06
$1 to $250	9	15.27
$251 to $500	3	5.07
$501 to $750	2	3.38
$751 to $1,000	2	3.38
$1,001 to $1,500	4	6.77
$1,501 to $2,000	1	1.69
$2,001 and up	2	3.38
Total	59	100.00

Table XII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1958, Whose Allowances Are Paid by This Province

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	---	---
Saskatchewan	2	2
Manitoba	---	1
Ontario	1	1
Quebec	---	---
New Brunswick	1	---
Nova Scotia	---	---
Prince Edward Island	---	---
Newfoundland	---	---
Northwest Territories	---	---
Yukon Territory	---	---
Total	4	4

Table XIII.—Distribution of British Columbia Recipients according to the Amount of Allowances Received (Basic Allowance, $55)

	Per Cent
$55	92.86
$50 to $54.99	1.78
$45 to $49.99	1.00
$40 to $44.99	0.59
$35 to $39.99	0.59
$30 to $34.99	0.79
$25 to $29.99	1.00
$20 to $24.99	0.39
$19.99 and less	1.00
Total	100.00

Disabled Persons' Allowances

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	475
Applications granted	301[1]
Applications refused, withdrawn, etc.	148

[1] Includes some left over from previous year.

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*) British Columbia recipients—		
Suspended		58
Reinstated		11
Transferred to other Provinces		6
Returned to British Columbia		5
Transferred to Old Age Security		4
Deaths		40
(*b*) Other-Province recipients—		
Transferred to British Columbia		15
Transferred out of British Columbia or suspended		8
Reinstated		2
Deaths		1
(*c*) Total on payroll at end of fiscal year—		
British Columbia	1,253	
Other Province	28	
		1,281

Table III.—Reasons Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not 18 years of age	------	------
Unable to prove age	------	------
Not sufficient residence	1	0.68
Unable to prove residence	------	------
Too much income	3	2.02
Transfer of property	------	------
Refused information	2	1.36
Whereabouts unknown	5	3.38
Allowance under " Blind Persons Act "	------	------
Assistance under " Old-age Assistance Act "	------	------
Allowance under " War Veterans' Allowance Act "	------	------
Pension under " Old Age Security Act "	1	0.68
Mothers' Allowance	------	------
Unable to meet medical test	112	75.68
Referred for rehabilitation	7	4.72
Tuberculosis sanatorium	------	------
Mental hospital	4	2.70
Home for the Aged	------	------
Infirmary	------	------
Institution for incurables	1	0.68
Hospital	1	0.68
Nursing home	3	2.02
Other institutions	------	------
Application withdrawn	4	2.70
Died before grant	4	2.70
Total	148	100.00

Table IV.—Primary Causes of Disability on Accepted Cases

	Per Cent
Infective and parasitic diseases	4.31
Neoplasms	0.57
Allergie, endocrine system, metabolic, and nutritional diseases	3.45
Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	------
Mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders	37.36
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	31.33
Diseases of the circulatory system	6.90
Diseases of the respiratory system	1.43
Diseases of the digestive system	------
Diseases of genito-urinary system	------
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue	------
Diseases of the bones and organs of movement	10.92
Congenital malformation	1.43
Symptoms, senility, and ill-defined conditions	------
Accidents, poisoning, and violence (nature of injury)	2.30
Total	100.00

Table V.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	154	51.16
Female	147	48.84
Total	301	100.00

Table VI.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	48	15.95
Single	204	67.78
Widow	12	3.98
Widower	6	1.99
Separated	27	8.98
Divorced	4	1.32
Total	301	100.00

Table VII.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	134	44.52
Other parts of Canada	90	29.90
British Isles	38	12.63
Other parts of British Empire	1	0.34
United States of America	13	4.31
Other foreign countries	25	8.30
Total	301	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages at Granting of Allowance

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 19	25	8.30
Ages 20 to 24	26	8.63
Ages 25 to 29	25	8.30
Ages 30 to 34	26	8.63
Ages 35 to 39	25	8.30
Ages 40 to 44	22	7.30
Ages 45 to 49	30	9.97
Ages 50 to 54	37	12.30
Ages 55 to 59	44	14.64
Ages 60 to 64	36	11.97
Ages 65 to 69	5	1.66
Ages over 70	----	------
Total	301	100.00

Table IX.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 19	1	2.50
Ages 20 to 24	2	5.00
Ages 25 to 29	3	7.50
Ages 30 to 34	---	------
Ages 35 to 39	2	5.00
Ages 40 to 44	3	7.50
Ages 45 to 49	2	5.00
Ages 50 to 54	5	12.50
Ages 55 to 59	9	22.50
Ages 60 to 64	7	17.50
Ages 65 to 69	6	15.00
Ages over 70	---	------
Total	40	100.00

Table X.—With Whom Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living with parents	144	47.85
Living alone	24	7.97
Living with spouse	32	10.64
Living with spouse and children	18	5.98
Living with children	15	4.98
Living with other relatives	44	14.62
Living with others	16	5.31
Living in public institution	6	1.99
Living in private institution	2	0.66
Total	301	100.00

Table XI.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In parents' home	117	38.89
In own house	43	14.29
In rented house	20	6.64
In rented suite	17	5.64
In children's home	14	4.65
In home of other relatives	51	16.96
Boarding	12	3.98
In housekeeping room	15	4.98
In boarding home	2	0.66
In institutions	8	2.65
In single room (eating out)	2	0.66
Total	301	100.00

Table XII.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	262	87.04
$1 to $250	1	0.34
$251 to $500	2	0.66
$501 to $750	----	----
$751 to $1,000	1	0.34
$1,001 to $1,500	5	1.66
$1,501 to $2,000	7	2.32
$2,001 and up	23	7.64
Total	301	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	234	77.76
$1 to $250	38	12.63
$251 to $500	7	2.32
$501 to $750	3	1.00
$751 to $1,000	2	0.66
$1,001 to $1,500	1	0.34
$1,501 to $2,000	9	2.97
$2,001 and up	7	2.32
Total	301	100.00

Table XIII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1958, Whose Allowances Are Paid by This Province

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	3	1
Saskatchewan	----	5
Manitoba	1	----
Ontario	1	2
Quebec	----	----
New Brunswick	----	----
Nova Scotia	----	----
Prince Edward Island	----	----
Newfoundland	----	----
Total	5	8

Table XIV.—Distribution of British Columbia Recipients according to the Amount of Allowance Received (Basic Allowance, $55)

	Per Cent
$55	93.36
$50 to $54.99	2.34
$45 to $49.99	1.95
$40 to $44.99	0.69
$35 to $39.99	0.60
$30 to $34.99	0.30
$25 to $29.99	0.23
$20 to $24.99	0.15
$19.99 and less	0.38
Total	100.00

Supplementary Assistance and Health Services to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled

New Applications

Number received	1,884
Number granted supplementary assistance and health services	895
Number granted supplementary assistance only	15
Number granted health services only	128
Number who died before application was granted	33
Number of applications withdrawn	98
Number of applicants ineligible	260
Number of applications pending	455
Total	1,884

General Information

Former old-age pensioners still receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1958	12,362
Old-age Assistance recipients transferred to Old Age Security receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1958	8,265
New Old Age Security pensioners receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1958	6,289
Blind persons in receipt of Old Age Security receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1958	219
Disability pensioners over 70 receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1958	3

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

" THE OLD AGE ASSISTANCE ACT," YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1958

	Assistance	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$3,990,495.01	$1,389,445.87	$5,379,940.88
Less amount of refunds from recipients—			
Overpayments refunded	$19,071.35	$2,666.94	$21,738.29
Miscellaneous refunds	200.00	100.00	300.00
Totals	$19,271.35	$2,766.94	$22,038.29
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$3,971,223.66	$1,386,678.93	$5,357,902.59
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	26,403.74	5,257.82	31,661.56
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	73,010.51	9,671.42	82,681.93
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	1,996,604.01		1,996,604.01
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$1,928.012.88	$1,382,265.33	$3,310,278.21

"THE BLIND PERSONS ACT," YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1958

	Allowances	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$287,077.93	$109,121.31	$396,199.24
Less amount of refunds from recipients—			
Overpayments refunded	$1,734.99	$15.00	$1,749.99
Miscellaneous refunds	264.00	120.00	384.00
Totals	$1,998.99	$135.00	$2,133.99
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$285,078.94	$108,986.31	$394,065.25
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	784.20	120.00	904.20
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	4,629.39	3,407.50	8,036.89
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	213,809.22		213,809.22
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$67,424.53	$105,698.81	$173,123.34

"THE DISABLED PERSONS ACT," YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1958

	Allowances	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$698,447.89	$279,375.03	$977,822.92
Less amount of refunds from recipients—Overpayments refunded	248.73	7.78	256.51
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$698,199.16	$279,367.25	$977,566.41
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	3,730.43	780.00	4,510.43
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	13,002.21		13,002.21
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	349,099.60		349,099.60
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$339,827.78	$280,147.25	$619,975.03

Old Age Security Recipients—Supplementary Social Assistance
Year Ended March 31st, 1958

Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$6,187,871.66
Less amount of refunds from recipients—	
Overpayments refunded	17,586.08
Miscellaneous refunds	304.62
Total	$17,890.70
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$6,169,980.96
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	49,522.42
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	185,228.28
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$6,034,275.10

"The Old Age Pensions Act," Year Ended March 31st, 1958

	Pensions	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Amount of refunds received from pensioners' estates	$562.74		$562.74
Less amount refunded to the Federal Government	422.04		422.04
Total net refunds received by British Columbia	$140.70		$140.70

Administration Expenses

Salaries and special services	$197,851.96
Office expense	54,681.07
Travelling expense	493.63
Incidentals and contingencies	585.40
Equipment and furniture	1,480.84
Medical examinations	237.06
Total	$255,329.96

SUMMARY

Administration and Assistance

Administration	$255,329.96
" Old-age Assistance Act "	1,928,012.88
" Blind Persons' Allowances Act "	67,424.53
" Disabled Persons' Allowances Act "	339,827.78
" Old-age Pension Act "	(credit) *140.70*
As per Public Accounts	$2,590,454.45

Supplementary Social Assistance

" Old-age Assistance Act "	$1,382,265.33
" Blind Persons' Allowances Act "	105,698.81
" Disabled Persons' Allowances Act "	280,147.25
Universal Old Age Security	6,034,275.10
As per Public Accounts	$7,802,386.49

MEMBERS OF BOARD

The following are the members of the Old-age Assistance Board of the Province of British Columbia:—

Chairman: Mr. E. W. Berry.

Members: Mr. J. A. Sadler, Director of Welfare; Mr. R. Talbot, Administrator, Region II, Social Welfare Branch.

CONCLUSION

In concluding this report the Board wishes to express its sincere appreciation for the loyal and efficient work of the office and field staffs throughout the year and for the continued co-operation of other departments of Government and many outside agencies.

Respectfully submitted.

E. W. BERRY
Chairman.

MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

The annual report of the Medical Services Division for the fiscal year 1957/58 does not show any startling changes in so far as policy. It does confirm the trend of increasing costs, which have been steadily mounting over the previous ten years, as shown in the following table:—

Table I.—Divisional Costs for Years 1946/47 to 1957/58

Fiscal Year	Medical	Drugs	Dental	Optical	Transportation	Other	Total
1946/47	$104,375.86	$65,690.53	$6,457.75	$1,821.06	$4,752.15	$2,876.33	$185,973.68
1947/48	185,613.57	123,913.10	13,008.82	2,615.64	6,319.58	3,602.90	335,073.61
1948/49	250,004.18	172,554.46	19,290.90	3,817.73	10,484.90	10,317.53	466,469.70
1949/50	592,908.17	299,478.71	24,764.96	13,425.22	14,156.08	3,990.96	948,724.10
1950/51	688,829.34	387,242.73	30,915.12	23,543.17	13,612.38	1,839.60	1,145,982.34
1951/52	723,524.87	448,886.21	50,044.06	28,972.01	14,860.51	3,170.24	1,269,457.90
1952/53	1,202,759.51	625,811.17	73,010.09	44,858.20	16,765.41	8,492.14	1,971,696.52
1953/54	1,219,968.71	658,599.63	86,717.17	44,330.50	17,380.03	11,100.36	2,038,096.40
1954/55	1,362,928.21	753,831.50	112,719.03	48,074.34	23,891.75	13,454.81	2,314,899.64
1955/56	1,523,658.40	896,889.68	119,512.74	48,341.91	22,504.83	12,733.72	2,623,641.28
1956/57	1,486,400.99	965,921.97	129,267.56	50,565.61	23,359.27	14,421.96	2,669,937.26
1957/58	1,503,964.91	1,114,674.70	148,223.72	55,440.66	25,763.04	16,983.77	2,865,050.80

It would be an injustice to say that the services provided by these moneys were unnecessary. On the contrary, although there may be some abuses, those giving the services know full well the need for them. Yet there must be some form of control, and this, to be effective, requires the co-operation of all concerned.

The doctors of British Columbia have received no significant change in the form of payment for their services under the terms of the agreement with the Canadian Medical Association (British Columbia Division). This in no way indicates that such services have remained stationary, for the total number of accounts paid through Social Assistance Medical Service have actually increased. This is evident from Table II.

Table II.—Payments and Accounts

Payments to British Columbia doctors—

1956/57—	
Agreement	$1,479,661.21
Immigrant	1,836.78
Other	4,903.00
	$1,486,400.99
1957/58—	
Agreement	$1,492,741.27
Immigrant	6,951.51
Other	4,272.13
	$1,503,964.91

S.A.M.S. accounts submitted—

1956/57	140,850
1957/58	150,425

Average number of doctors submitting accounts (quarterly)—

1956/57	1,167
1957/58	1,238

DRUG COSTS

These remain an increasing problem, and it is disturbing to see a rather marked increase in actual numbers of prescriptions with a relatively unchanged number of persons eligible for such benefits. This would tend to suggest that although costs of medicines may have increased along with a general increase in the cost of living, utilization is the principal factor in our total drug costs (*see* Tables III and IV).

Table III.—Prescriptions and Costs, 1956/57 and 1957/58

Number of prescriptions—	1956/57	1957/58
Drug-stores	399,367	458,002
Provincial Pharmacy	19,572	23,487
Totals	418,939	481,489

Cost of drugs through—	1956/57	1957/58
Drug-stores	$873,145.51	$992,311.11
Provincial Pharmacy	92,776.46	122,363.59
Totals	$965,921.97	$1,114,674.70

Table IV.—Categorical Breakdown of Medical Coverage

Category	1956/57	1957/58
Mothers' Allowance	1,047	877
Social Allowance	17,118	17,461
Child Welfare Division	3,311	3,546
Old Age Security Bonus and Blind Persons' Allowance	36,239	36,441
Old-age Assistance	7,739	7,195
Disabled Persons' Allowance	975	1,221
Total average monthly coverage	66,429	66,741
Total yearly payments to S.A.M.S.	$1,479,661.21	$1,492,741.27

DENTAL PROGRAMME

Each year there has been small but definite increased cost in the implementing of this programme with the emphasis in costs remaining on the provision of dentures rather than on prophylaxis. This is not in keeping with well-established principles of dental health nor will it save the Province in future expenditures, but rather increase them. The age-limit remains at up to the 12-year-olds but not including them, in assisting them to take part in the preventive programme of the Health Branch of the same department.

Table V.—Dental Payments

	1956/57	1957/58
Prophylaxis	$24,996.66	$28,430.52
Extractions	7,596.04	9,589.80
Dentures	96,674.86	110,203.40
Totals	$129,267.56	$148,223.72

OPTICAL SERVICES

Here also there has been the yearly increase in costs, although not marked. The following table does not give the payments received by ophthalmologists, as they are paid under the terms of the S.A.M.S. Agreement:—

Table VI.—Optical Payments

	1956/57	1957/58
Optometric examinations	$9,213.65	$9,896.45
Glasses	41,351.96	45,544.21
Totals	$50,565.61	$55,440.66

The various travelling clinics have continued to assist us in providing medical services to those in receipt of welfare. It is an invaluable aid to have them, and we can only hope for their expansion. Our thanks to them is expressed at this time expecially to the British Columbia Cancer Institute, Children's Hospital, and Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, both for their travelling and stationary clinics.

The providing of transportation for welfare recipients for various medical reasons frequently requires much effort both for field and this Division's staff. The number of persons brought to Vancouver in this category for the year 1957/58 was 160, an increase of 43 over the previous year. If this trend continues, we may well require to have some form of accommodation for them if they are not to be admitted directly to hospital. Of these 160 persons, there were 108 male and 52 female, a ratio of 3 to 1, which shows an increase from 2 to 1 respectively in the previous year. Their ages have ranged, as in the past, from infancy to eighth or ninth decades, and their medical diagnoses have been as varied, with cancer comprising about one-fifth of them.

As in the past, many people outside this Division have provided their services to our clients and patients, and have continued to assist in the programme of the Medical Services Division. To them we also express our thanks and particularly the Canadian Medical Association (British Columbia Division), the British Columbia Dental Association, British Columbia Pharmaceutical Association, the Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul's Hospital, the British Columbia Cancer Institute, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, and the Children's Hospital. The people of this Province have only an inkling to what extent has been the contribution of the members and staffs of all these associations and institutions and organizations.

Respectfully submitted.

G. E. WAKEFIELD, M.D.
Director.

PART III.—INSTITUTIONS

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS

I beg to submit the annual report for the Brannen Lake School for boys for the period ended March 31st, 1958.

	Fiscal Year									
	1948/49	1949/50	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58
Number in School, April 1st	95	89	79	104	104	101	96	131	129	152
Number A.W.O.L., April 1st	7	14	13	15	19	4	15	9	1	2
Number in Oakalla, April 1st	3	1	.....	1	3	1	2	19	.....	3
Number in Crease Clinic, April 1st	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Number on extended leave, April 1st	3	3	.....	.....	.....	4	2	33	17	1
Number on special leave, April 1st	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Number of new admissions	102	86	130	121	118	105	171	143	222	210
Number of recidivists	23	25	26	31	23	17	32	24	40	75
Total number of admissions	125	111	156	152	141	122	203	167	262	285
Percentage of recidivism	18.4	22.5	16.7	20.4	16.3	13.9	15.8	14.4	15.3	26.3
Number of releases	126	126	128	146	155	119	126	212	237	265
Number A.W.O.L., March 31st	14	13	15	19	4	15	9	1	2	1
Number in Oakalla, March 31st	1	.....	1	3	1	2	19	.....	3	.....
Number on extended leave, March 31st	3	.....	.....	.....	4	2	33	17	1	.....
Number in Crease Clinic, March 31st	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Number on special leave, March 31st	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	27
Number in the School, March 31st	89	79	104	104	101	96	131	129	152	164
Average daily population	86	81.7	82	84.3	100.6	102.4	101.9	137.6	144	152
Total inmate days	31,408	29,808	30,011	30,865	36,721	37,383	37,198	50,371	52,576	55,516
Average length of stay in months	8	10	(1)	(1)	9	9.5	(1)	8.3	7.7	6
Total A.W.O.L. during fiscal year	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	281	432	239	124	156	122[2]

[1] Not recorded.
[2] Involving ninety-two boys.

During the fiscal year there were 210 admissions and 75 recidivists, making a total of 285 admitted to the School. There was a 26.3-per-cent rate of recidivism. Eleven of the seventy-five recidivists were committed for the third time, one for the fourth time. Two hundred and one of the boys admitted were Protestant, eighty Roman Catholic, and four of other religion or not determined. Twenty-seven of the total number of boys admitted during the year were of native Indian status.

Range of Age upon Admission

Age	Number of Boys	Age	Number of Boys
10 years	3	15 years	85
11 ,,	5	16 ,,	63
12 ,,	11	17 ,,	29
13 ,,	20	18 ,,	1
14 ,,	68		

The average age on admission was 14.8 years.

Supervising Agencies of Boys Admitted

	Number of Boys
Social Welfare Branch	39
Provincial Probation Branch	133
Children's Aid Society	5
Catholic Children's Aid Society	5
Family and Children's Service	8
Vancouver Juvenile Court	57
Victoria Juvenile Court	9
Saanich Juvenile Court	3
Royal Oak Juvenile Court	5
Indian Department	9
Indian Department and Social Welfare Branch	7
Indian Department and Provincial Probation Branch	4
Superintendent of Child Welfare, Yukon	1

Of this number, seventeen were wards of the Superintendent of Child Welfare, four of the Children's Aid Society, four of the Catholic Children's Aid Society, and one of the Victoria Family and Children's Service. Nine of the twenty-six wards were recidivists.

The 285 boys admitted were committed from the following Juvenile Courts:—

Region I

Alberni	3	Nanaimo	5
Alert Bay	1	Port Alberni	3
Campbell River	4	Royal Oak	6
Colwood	1	Saanichton	1
Courtenay	3	Sidney	3
Duncan	2	Victoria	18
Esquimalt	1		—
Lake Cowichan	1		52

Region II

Bella Coola	3	Richmond	10
Burnaby	16	Sechelt	7
Coquitlam	6	Vancouver	61
New Westminster	10	West Vancouver	5
North Vancouver	13		—
Powell River	1		132

Region III

Armstrong	2	Merritt	1
Bralorne	2	Oliver	3
Chase	1	Penticton	4
Kamloops	2	Princeton	1
Kelowna	6		—
Lumby	1		31
Lytton	8		

Region IV

Castlegar	1	Kimberley	1
Cranbrook	2	Rossland	1
Creston	1	Trail	3
Fruitvale	1		—
Invermere	1		11

Region V

Dawson Creek	2	Quesnel	2
Fort Nelson	1	Williams Lake	1
Fort St. James	3		—
Fort St. John	2		16
Prince George	5		

Region VI

Agassiz	4	Hope	2
Boston Bar	2	Langley	4
Chilliwack	2		—
Cloverdale	10		29
Haney	5		

Region VII

Kitimat	2	Smithers	1
Masset	1	Terrace	2
Prince Rupert	6		—
Queen Charlotte City	1		13

Yukon Territory 1

Boys were not in all cases residents of the area served by the Juvenile Court which committed them to the School.

Of the 285 boys committed to the School during the year, 236 were committed for offences against property, 13 against persons, and 36 other offences which included incorrigibility.

Of the 210 new admissions during the year, 53 of the boys were never tried on probation but were committed to the School on their first appearance before the Court.

There were 265 boys released from the School during the year. The average length of stay of boys in the School was six months. The majority of the boys were released after between four and eight months' stay in the School, while thirty-four others varied from nine to twenty-one months' stay in the School, and nineteen others were in the School not exceeding two months. This latter group was either recalled by the Court and other dispensation made of their cases or they became involved in more serious trouble and when before the Court were committed to adult institutions. One of the nineteen was transferred to Essondale Mental Hospital.

Ninety-two boys accounted for the total of 122 A.W.O.L.s. The difference between these two figures is due to the fact that some of the same boys went A.W.O.L. two or more times during the year. The majority of the boys who went A.W.O.L. were picked up within a few hours of going absent either by members of the School staff or R.C.M.P. officers. Four hundred and fifty-seven boys were worked with in the School during the fiscal year.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL TREATMENT

Dental treatment comprised the following: 728 fillings, 75 X-rays, 165 extractions, 33 new partial dentures made, 11 partial dentures repaired, 29 prophylaxis treatments, and 2 examinations of teeth.

Dental work shows a marked increase. The condition of the boys' teeth on admission to the School is very poor. The majority of the boys need dental care to some extent.

The incidence of accidents shows a slight increase.

An epidemic of influenza in September was on a large scale, but fortunately there were no serious complications.

External otitis has been quite prevalent; it has not been serious, although quite troublesome.

Since March, 1957, all the boys have been tuberculin tested; only those with a positive reaction have been chest X-rayed.

In March, 1957, 153 boys were tuberculin tested, of which 18 were positive. This number included both Indian and white boys; 11.8 per cent were positive. In the last nine months a record of the number of positives among Indian boys and white boys has been kept. In the group tested, approximately 13 per cent of the white boys had positive reaction and approximately 36 per cent of Indian boys had positive reaction. The result of the chest X-rays of boys who have a positive reaction has been negative.

In addition to the medical attention given to boys by our School doctor and nurse, thirty-one boys required operations, which were performed in the Nanaimo General Hospital. The School was billed for 143 hospital days to cover their care while in hospital. The hospital X-ray facilities were used for chest X-rays, and an additional twelve boys were X-rayed for other reasons.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1957/58

Salaries		$228,517.33
Office expense		6,360.89
Travelling expense		799.89
Heat, light, power, and water		23,894.06
Medical services		13,201.45
Clothing and uniforms		13,724.88
Provisions and catering		63,975.66
Laundry and dry-goods		14,043.11
Equipment and machinery		702.65
Medical supplies		1,371.54
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		4,290.74
Transportation		2,459.76
Motor-vehicles and accessories		8,143.09
Maintenance and operation of equipment		2,082.78
Incidentals and contingencies		8,602.47
Repairs to furnishings and equipment		999.41
Training programme expense		5,911.47
		$399,081.18
Less—		
Board	$3,543.00	
Rent	3,303.00	
Transportation	292.20	
Transfer from Inmates' Trust Account	6,046.01	
Sundry credits	577.48	
		13,761.69
		$385,319.49
Less maintenance receipts		2,939.12
Net expenditure as per Public Accounts		$382,380.37
Salaries and Expenses		$399,081.18
Add salary revision		14,061.49
		$413,142.67
Less credits		13,761.69
		$399,380.98
Less increase in inventory—		
Inventory at March 31st, 1958	$15,784.48	
Inventory at March 31st, 1957	14,347.78	
		1,436.70
		$397,944.28
Add Public Works expenditure		46,818.89
Cost of operating School, 1957/58		$444,763.17

Per capita cost *per diem*: $444,763.17÷55,516=$8.01

It will be noted that the average daily population of the School was 152 boys. Since the School has no control of admissions, there was no alternative but to reduce the average stay of a boy in the School. This resulted in many boys being released before the School authorities felt the boys were actually ready to return to the community. This in turn, we believe, is to some degree responsible for the increased rate of recidivism which occurred during the year. I also feel it would be a mistake to say the increase in recidivism is entirely due to the short period the boys spent in the School, as work with the family while the boy is in the School and the follow-up work on release plus the support the boys receive from their homes and the community are also contributing factors.

Since the School must deal with all boys committed by the various Courts of this Province, we do have a certain number of boys who might be classed as mentally deficient and who cannot benefit from this School programme, and many of them will be recidivists.

There is need for a screening centre and other resources both for the mentally retarded and some of these tender-age boys, whose needs could be better met in a specialized foster home if they cannot be cared for in their own homes with adequate social services. Forestry or work camps might also better meet the needs of some of the older boys who are at present being sent to this School. It might also be helpful if parents were made to assume responsibility within their financial means for the support and care of their children while in a correctional school. This fact in itself would tend to make parents realize that they must assume responsibility for their children and their misdemeanours rather than foisting this on the public.

I wish to thank all staff members, clergymen, service clubs, and other organizations, including other departments of government, both municipal and Provincial, private agencies, and individuals who have shown an interest in the boys of the School by helping the School with its programme of rehabilitation. The School is greatly indebted to all these persons, and their assistance has been appreciated by the administration of the School.

Respectfully submitted.

F. G. HASSARD,
Superintendent.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

This is the forty-fourth annual report to be submitted on the Industrial School for Girls from 800 Cassiar Street, and it covers in brief the activities and progress of the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1958.

The new School is nearing completion; therefore, only essential repairs have been carried out.

It is gratifying to record here an increased stability in the staff, with only three resignations and one transfer being received during the year. The school-teacher who joined the staff in September, 1956, left in August, 1957, to accept a position in the City of Vancouver at a considerably higher salary. One stenographer left for domestic reasons, and the other stenographer requested a transfer to a Government office closer to her home. A night supervisor resigned to seek day employment and has recently accepted a position at the new girls' school in Alberta close to her home. There were no changes in the senior or supervising staff. Some staff development has been carried out through interesting and well-attended evening staff meetings and also through frequent individual conferences with senior staff. Perhaps the major factor in staff development has been the day-to-day job, and it has been heartening to note individual members gradually profiting from experience and taking greater responsibility.

The increased stability among staff has helped to develop a well-balanced programme of activities and it has been accepted that everyone takes part in it. There has been a marked improvement in the interest of the girls, and for the majority a natural desire to participate both in work and recreation. All girls under 15 years must attend regular school classes. There has been an increase in the number over school-leaving age continuing their education in the school. Approximately two-thirds of the total population attend school on the same basis as they would in the community. When they first come to us, the majority have not been too successful in their studies previously and, generally speaking, are ill-prepared in the fundamental skills of learning. Each presents a special problem, and we have been fortunate in attracting to our staff a teacher experienced in remedial teaching who, through a sympathetic attitude and kindly understanding, has been able to encourage each to some extent to overcome her problems and make some progress. The beauty-parlour has continued to operate at capacity, with two girls always preparing for Government examinations and looking forward to returning to the community as qualified hairdressers. More and more girls are also seeking to learn proper care of their own hair, skin, and nails by spending their spare time after school and work in the beauty-parlour. Our present beauty-parlour is very cramped and overcrowded. The sewing-room is another popular spot for a few, and it is hoped in the new School every girl will have the opportunity to learn at least enough sewing to bring her pleasure in her own home. Some girls who are beyond or have no further desire for academic training spend their whole term in the School working in either the kitchen or the laundry, learning as much as possible in these fields. However, it is not always so much what the girl learns that counts as the close association that generally develops between staff and girl, and which helps to restore her lost faith in adults and gives her the inner strength to handle herself in the adult world she must return to on her release. The physical education and recreational programme will always be popular with the girl who comes to the School; some before reaching us have won honours in school sports. Even with two swimming periods a week, nearly every girl learns to swim well and earns the Red Cross swimming awards. Happy, indeed, is the child who cannot swim a stroke on admission but returns to the community with her senior medallion and the right to instruct. At least six girls are examined every month by an appointed Red Cross swimming instructor, and we are always complimented, not only on how well prepared the girls are, but also on their excellent conduct at the pool.

Our social workers continued to work closely with the social workers in the community and found the various agencies co-operative in supplying histories and information on all committals.

The School population kept up all year, with a daily average in the building of 51.6, as against 46.2 the previous year, and a total average enrolment of 71.6. There were sixty-six admissions, including seven or 10.6 per cent readmissions. This is a decrease of five in admissions and a drop of close to 5 per cent in recidivists over the previous year. This does not give a complete picture because there are always those who go on to adult institutions, of which we have no accurate record. However, it would appear that at least 80 per cent of the girls do not come in contact with the law again. Twenty-two girls were 16 years or over and only four 12 years or under at the time of committal. Seventy-two girls were relased from the School, and the average length of stay increased to 12.4 months. The older age-group generally includes a number of girls whose delinquent behaviour has become a fixed pattern; they may conform to get by, but they have no intention of altering their way of life. While conforming on the surface, they are generally at the root of any serious trouble in the School, and the younger, less experienced girls either fall in with them and become their tools or live in fear of being forced into situations not of their making. This is a situation which will never be completely controlled so long as both groups have to be taken care of in one institution.

Emphasis has been placed this year on a better interpretation of the girl and her problems to the community in an effort to remove as much as possible the stigma of committal to the School by a wider use of volunteers and invitation to a larger number of friends to attend programmes put on by the girls. A gymnastic display was repeated on three different occasions, one performance being specially for our neighbours, who were invited by letters delivered by two of the girls. Volunteers have joined in practically every part of our programme either as individuals or groups and have become close friends of girls and staff alike and a real part of our School. We are most grateful to the religious groups who come every Sunday, the Elizabeth Fry Society for their Christmas party and exciting picnic at Boundary Bay and for taking care of girls with no families in Vancouver for special week-ends and days out, and to all the individuals who joined in our various activities and make it more possible for us to have a broad and active programme.

The health of the girls has remained excellent. The Venereal Diseases Clinic visited once a week; our own doctor held clinics every week; extensive examinatons were carried out at the out-patient department of the Vancouver General Hospital; dental clinics were held every second week at the out-patient department of the Vancouver General Hospital, but this does little more than take care of emergencies; necessary eye examinations were done by an eye specialist and glasses supplied when prescribed.

While there have been disappointing reports of girls who have left the School only to fall more deeply into their old habits, there have also been some most encouraging reports from others. One girl who trained to be a hairdresser while in the School, after some ups and downs, is now happily settled in the home of one of the staff and doing very well in a leading beauty salon in the city. Her name appears in their advertisements as the assistant hair stylist. Another spends one evening a week at a swimming-pool as a volunteer swimming instructor. Others have returned to school in the community and settled down to a normal life. Many more good reports could be recorded.

In closing, may I express my sincere thanks to the many volunteers who have spent so many hours with us, to the senior administration for their interest and support, and to my staff for all their hard work.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

POPULATION OF THE SCHOOL, MARCH 31ST, 1958

On roll, April 1st, 1957	78	
Girls admitted during April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958	66	
		144
Officially released (this includes 4 to correct an old error)	75	
Transferred to other institutions with subsequent official release from Girls' Industrial School	----	
Transferred to other institutions but not officially released from Girls' Industrial School this year	----	
		75
Total unreleased, March 31st, 1958		69

Financial Statement, 1957/58

Salaries		$111,368.31
Office expense		2,103.52
Travelling expense		1,006.24
Heat, light, power, and water		6,539.82
Medical services		6,497.61
Clothing and uniforms		3,640.24
Provisions and catering		19,504.13
Laundry and dry-goods		142.56
Good Conduct Fund		1,505.15
Equipment and machinery		916.78
Medical supplies		2,008.58
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		1,065.78
Transportation		1,314.43
Maintenance and operation of equipment		655.19
Vocational and recreational supplies, etc.		772.43
Incidentals and contingencies		508.02
		$159,548.79
Less—		
Board	$516.10	
Sundry receipts	397.90	
		914.00
Net expenditure as per Public Accounts		$158,634.79
Salaries and expenses		$159,548.79
Add salary revision		6,749.16
		$166,297.95
Less credits		914.00
		$165,383.95
Add decrease in inventory—		
Inventory at March 31st, 1957	$6,154.63	
Inventory at March 31st, 1958	5,203.58	
		951.05
		$166,335.00
Add Public Works expenditure		9,537.53
Cost of operating School, 1957/58		$175,872.53

Per capita cost *per diem*: $175,872.53÷18,851=$9.33

Respectfully submitted.

(Miss) Winifred M. Urquhart,
Superintendent.

PROVINCIAL HOME, KAMLOOPS

I submit herewith the annual report of the Provincial Home for the Aged and Infirm, Kamloops, for the fiscal year 1957/58.

BUILDINGS

The exterior of the Home was completely decorated. The front entrance was renovated with a new approach and steps, all steeples removed and the centre roof changed accordingly, and the old wooden portion was stuccoed. The Home was painted Bermuda sand with green trimmings, and the fire-escapes red. The entire roof was reshingled with black asphalt shingles. The outside entrances were rewired in order to flood-light the fire-escapes. Improvements on the interior of the Home consisted of renovating and decorating the offices, extra light switches, and some painting.

EQUIPMENT

New equipment received during the year was a bus wagon for the dining-room, a griddle for the kitchen, a television set and air foam cushions for the sitting-room, and a canvas stretcher.

ENTERTAINMENT

Concerts were presented by the High School Orchestra, Elks' Band, R.M.R. Band, Shriners' Band, and Elks' Concert Party. Local organizations visited the Home and presented concerts and held teas. Religious services were conducted by various denominations throughout the year.

GENERAL

Fire protection for the Home is of major importance, and the staff received lectures and demonstrations for its prevention. Total evacuation drills have also been exercised.

The medical and surgical services were again provided by the Irving Clinic and proved satisfactory. The staff and inmates had their annual X-ray. The drugs and medicines were purchased from the Provincial Pharmacy, with excellent service. No epidemics were experienced throughout the year.

Ground-floor space is at a premium, as most rooms were gradually occupied by patients from the sick ward. The staff and attending doctor have commended a programme whereby the patients are encouraged to care for themselves without injury or hardship, receiving good care and encouragement, thereby vacating the sick ward and occupying ground-level rooms. This also tends to give more time for better care to the remaining patients, and it is hoped that two blind patients can be taught to care for themselves and move about the Home. Several acute cases had long periods in the Kamloops Hospital, thereby increasing the over-all cost of the year's expenses.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1957/58

Salaries		$90,871.94
Office expense		824.69
Travelling expense		51.90
Heat, light, power, and water		3,120.65
Medical services		9,134.85
Clothing and uniforms		3,643.33
Provisions and catering		33,264.32
Laundry and dry-goods		8,626.59
Equipment and machinery		926.15
Medical supplies		3,686.93
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		1,541.30
Transportation		372.94
Burials		2,470.00
Maintenance and operation of equipment		390.69
Incidentals and contingencies		1,347.18
		$160,273.46
Less—		
Board	$1,524.00	
Rent	422.75	
		1,946.75
		$158,326.71
Add salary revision		3,691.86
		$162,018.57

SUMMARY

Provincial Home expenditure	$162,018.57
Public Works expenditure	18,504.08
	$180,522.65

Per capita cost *per diem:* $180,522.65÷42,998=$4.20.

Pensions paid to Government Agent, Kamloops, $65,514.04.

RECONCILIATION

Net expenditure as per Public Accounts		$94,008.58
Add salary revision		3,691.86
		$97,700.44
Add maintenance receipts—		
Pensions	$65,514.04	
Municipalities	5,250.13	
Other collections	2,321.87	
		73,086.04
		$170,786.48
Add Public Works expenditure		18,504.08
		$189,290.56
Less—		
Pensioners' comforts	$6,516.37	
Proportion of excess of disbursements over receipts for Tranquille Farm	2,251.54	
		8,767.91
		$180,522.65

I wish to thank all co-workers for their unfailing assistance and support in the interest shown in the welfare of the Home.

Respectfully submitted.

G. P. WILLIE,
Superintendent.

WELFARE INSTITUTIONS BOARD

I herewith submit the annual report of the administration of the " Welfare Institutions Licensing Act " for the year 1957. As licences are issued on the basis of the calendar year, this report covers the period from January 1st, 1957, to December 31st, 1957.

LICENCES

The total number of cases dealt with during the year was 1,008. Included in this number were 606 licensed institutions and 402 pending applications. Of the licensed institutions, 70 closed during the year and 293 pending applications were closed or withdrawn. The total number of cases at December 31st, 1957, was 645, made up of 536 licensed institutions and 109 pending applications. Welfare institutions served 38,613 persons in 1957.

BOARD MEETINGS

There were eight Board meetings held during the year, which alternated between Victoria and Vancouver. Previously all meetings were held in Vancouver, but as most of the Board members live in Victoria this new arrangement is more satisfactory. There were no changes in the personnel of the Board.

WELFARE INSTITUTIONS FOR CHILDREN

A. Full-time Care of Children

Institutions for Child-care

There are nine institutions licensed for the care of children, and no new licences were issued during the year. These are fairly small institutions and, with the exception of two which give boarding-home care, the other seven provide special services to children.

Mrs. Kathryn Buckett, who for many years was the able superintendent of St. Christopher's School, a school for the training of retarded boys, retired because of ill health. Mrs. Buckett's work in this field will long be remembered by those of us who were privileged to work with her. St. Euphrasia's School is doing effective work in training of emotionally disturbed and pre-delinquent girls. The school limits admissions to girls between the ages of 12 and 15 years. All applications are carefully screened, and only girls who can benefit from the programme are accepted. The school now has a psychiatrist working part time on the staff.

A committee, with representatives from the children's institutions, was set up late in the year under the chairmanship of the Superintendent of Child Welfare. The purpose of this committee is to look into present legislation as set down in the " Welfare Institutions Licensing Act " and regulations, and to ascertain whether this legislation is adequate to meet the present and future needs of children in this Province. It is hoped also that the committee will study the needs of children in our present-day society and, when these needs are known, to decide what services should be established to meet them. During the course of the study it may be learned that institutions are not giving all the service they can to children and also other child-caring agencies may not be fully meeting the needs of children for whom they assume responsibility. By meeting together and co-ordinating their services and sharing experiences, these children's institutions will be able to serve all children throughout the Province better.

Number of institutions licensed in 1957	9
Number of children cared for	468
Total days' care	91,446

Private Boarding Homes

During the year, fifty-four licensed homes were used as private boarding homes for children. Placement is made by parents, who are responsible for payment, but in the majority of cases a welfare agency is consulted before placement is made. In Vancouver these homes are supervised by the two Children's Aid Societies, in Victoria by the Family and Children's Service, and in the other parts of the Province by the Provincial field service staff.

The co-operation received from the newspapers in checking advertisements of homes offering to board children is a great help in controlling this situation. In all, more than 200 advertisements were checked and referred to the agency concerned. Most of the homes advertising to board children are of low or marginal standards, and consequently very few can be used.

In Vancouver the Advisory Committee on Private Boarding Homes, under the chairmanship of the Senior Medical Health Officer, works continuously to improve the standard of care given children in these homes and also for better physical conditions.

The reasons why children are placed in private boarding homes are as follows: Broken homes, illness or death of a parent, or economic when both parents must work.

Private boarding homes serve a twofold purpose—the parents keep full responsibility for their children and maintain interest in their welfare. Parents know that the home where their child is living is licensed and supervised.

Number of children's boarding homes licensed in 1957	54
Number of children cared for	155
Total days' care	33,089

B. Day Care of Children

Foster Homes for Day Care

Homes giving day care to children also require to be licensed. In Vancouver the Foster Day Care Association, a Red Feather agency, provides this service for children of working mothers. This agency refers the children to homes near their own home or near the mother's place of work so that the child will not have too long a trip each day. Casework services are given by this agency when required.

Homes outside Vancouver giving day care are supervised by municipal or Provincial social workers.

A good day-care programme for children of mothers who of necessity must work is an essential and important service in any community. It is the means of keeping families together and prevents children living apart from their parents.

Number of foster day-care homes licensed in 1957	35
Number of children cared for	277
Total days' care	23,879

Kindergartens, Play-schools, etc.

The interest with which pre-school education was welcomed to this Province has never lagged. More schools were licensed during the year and there was an increase in attendance.

The course of training for supervisors in pre-school centres has been defined and is well accepted. Training for this work can be taken at the Adult Education Department of the Vancouver School Board, at Victoria College Evening Division Courses, the Extension Department of the University of British Columbia, and this year at the evening classes of the Burnaby School Board. For those unable to attend these classes, a correspondence course is offered by the Extension Department of the University of British Columbia. Since these courses have been started, there are more trained super-

visors available. Many qualified supervisors also attend these courses in order to keep up with the new ideas of programme and materials.

Conferences and workshops were sponsored during the year by the various pre-school groups, and these were well attended.

The Advisory Committee on Pre-school Education, set up by the College of Education, met several times during the year to discuss pre-school matters. A course in demonstration and methods of pre-school education was given the first three weeks in July at the University and was sponsored by the College of Education and the extension Department. This course is now given each year, and as the size of the class is limited to twenty-five persons, it is necessary to register several weeks ahead in order to secure a place.

Number of pre-school centres licensed in 1957	243
Number of children registered	11,022
Total days' care	883,865

Schools for Retarded Children

The interest in providing training centres for the retarded child is spreading to all parts of the Province, and the number of these centres is increasing. The British Columbia Association for Retarded Children is responsible for stimulating this interest by keeping local groups advised of what is happening, by sponsoring courses of training for teachers, and by arranging lectures by outstanding persons in this field.

The Provincial Government gives the same financial contribution for the education of these children as is made for normal children. This grant is paid by the Government to the British Columbia association. A local group, to be eligible for the grant, is required to be a member of the British Columbia association. Many people engaged in this work are of the opinion that retarded children should attend public school and receive their training along with normal children. Classes for retarded children have been established in public schools in some centres of the United States, but more study and time is required to see if such a plan would be satisfactory and workable.

Number of schools licensed in 1957	13
Number of children registered	227
Total days' care	27,017

MATERNITY HOMES

There are three licensed homes for this type of care, and all are operated by church organizations. These homes offer care and guidance to the unmarried mother. All homes work most closely with the Children's Aid Societies and other welfare agencies. The only rule of these homes is that any girl entering is required to accept casework services from a welfare agency and all adoption placements are made by these agencies. As there is an increase in the number of babies placed for adoption, and since these babies are placed very young, the mother is able to leave the home shortly after confinement. This leaves room to accommodate more girls who need this service.

The Salvation Army is planning a new home to replace Maywood, which is located in an industrial area and is no longer suitable for the work. This new home is located in a good residential district, with large grounds, which will give the necessary privacy. This home should be ready before too long.

Number of homes licensed in 1957	3
Number of mothers cared for	319
Number of infants cared for	235
Total days' care (mothers and children)	29,309

AGED-CARE

Providing decent housing and care for our older population is one of our major problems. Not only is this a major problem, but it is an increasing one as the percentage of older people is becoming greater. There are many ways in which this problem is being met. However, it is generally agreed that older people should be kept in their own homes as long as possible, but in order to do this, certain services must be brought to the home. In many cases a visit from a nurse or an efficient housekeeper working a few hours a day is all that is needed, and such services can be supplied cheaper than boarding or nursing care. There has been a beginning of these services in some communities.

In order to provide good housing for our older people in the lower-income group, the Provincial Government, through the "Elderly Citizens' Housing Aid Act," gives financial grants to non-profit organizations for this purpose. These grants are available for self-contained housing units and boarding homes.

It is interesting to note that more than 50 per cent of the older people needing boarding-home care were living in these non-profit homes this year. It is hoped that before too long there will be accommodation in these homes for all who wish to go.

The new Swedish Rest Home was opened during the year in Burnaby. The home is modern in architecture, attractive and comfortable, with private-room accommodation for eighty guests. The former Swedish Rest Home, located in North Vancouver, was closed to make way for a new bridge.

The privately operated homes still continue to give good service, and many older people still prefer this type of home.

In the last few years much has been done in the field of housing and living arrangements for older people, but before this situation can be dealt with fully and adequately, more detailed knowledge is required about the present and future needs of the various types and kinds of housing required. A study such as this is due in British Columbia.

Number of homes licensed during 1957	170
Number of persons cared for	3,765
Total days' care	803,705

UNEMPLOYED ADULTS

No new licences were issued for this type of care. In all there are five licensed homes, four of which are for women and are under the direction of church groups. All the comforts and privileges of home, along with kindly supervision and friendship of other girls of the same age-group, are given. Here the older adolescent and the young adult girl adjust with ease in these group-living homes. The homes are under the charge of capable and understanding matrons, who are always willing to help the girls with their problems and difficulties. More homes such as these should be opened in the large areas such as Vancouver as the present ones are always filled to capacity.

The home for the rehabilitation of alcoholics (men) is operated by the Alcoholism Foundation of British Columbia as part of its services. Admission to the home is voluntary, but all applicants agree to accept certain regulations of treatment and behaviour as required by the foundation. A total of 139 men used the home during the year. The results have been satisfactory and successful.

Number of homes licensed during 1957	5
Number of persons cared for	557
Total days' care	19,809

SUMMER CAMPS

Give me the moon for a blanket,
Give me the stars overhead;
I'll make the hillside my doorstep,
I'll make the meadow my bed.

Camps were closed with the realization that this was a most successful year. More camps were licensed, with more campers in attendance. Standards, both physical and programme, are showing marked improvements. In order to secure older and better trained senior counsellors, camps are now paying for this service.

The British Columbia Camping Association sponsored an institute for counsellors this year and also, in co-operation with the Community Chest and Council of Greater Vancouver, published a directory of camps. Any camp, no matter where located in the Province, can be included in the directory if they will send information about the camp to the directory committee. It is hoped that more Interior camps will take the advantage of this offer and send in the required information in time.

The use of Medical Health Report Form No. P.N. 26 is quite general, and camps report them as satisfactory. These forms are sent to the camps as a record for the director.

Many boys and girls who would be unable to attend camp because of lack of funds were given a camping holiday through the camp referral programme.

Camping is a good experience for all. It affords the experience of group living in the out-of-doors and the programme of camping consists of all the activities, relationships, interactions, and experience that enter into the life of the group. Camping has also become popular with older people, and many camps have camping sessions for this group which are much enjoyed and most successful.

Number of summer camps licensed in 1957	73
Number of persons cared for	21,578
Total days' care	200,516

CONCLUSION

Sincere thanks and appreciation is extended to all who helped with the administration of this Act.

Table I.—Showing a Comparative Summary of Information Regarding Licensed Welfare Institutions

	1954	1955	1956	1957
Children—Total Care (Excluding Summer Camps)				
Number licensed—				
Institutions	10	10	10	9
Boarding homes	50	58	59	54
Capacity—				
Institutions	549	500	452	385
Boarding homes	146	150	142	120
Number of children under care—				
Institutions	657	596	516	468
Boarding homes	174	189	171	155
Number of days' care—				
Institutions	129,976	92,264	89,678	91,446
Boarding homes	35,053	37,316	38,058	33,089
Summer Camps				
Number licensed	50	58	67	73
Capacity	3,369	3,765	4,214	4,891
Number of persons attending	13,578	15,861	16,736	21,578
Number of attendance days	172,693	149,616	165,867	200,516
Children—Day Care				
Number licensed—				
Kindergartens	194	222	221	243
Schools for retarded children	.....	.....	8	13
Foster day care	28	32	33	35
Capacity—				
Kindergartens	5,120	5,295	5,637	6,310
Schools for retarded children	.....	.....	180	227
Foster day care	137	154	104	140
Number of children enrolled—				
Kindergartens	8,924	8,640	9,636	11,022
Schools for retarded children	.....	.....	162	227
Foster day care	254	247	237	277
Number of attendance days—				
Kindergartens	712,808	745,563	781,558	883,865
Schools for retarded children		.....	21,374	27,017
Foster day care	18,201	20,087	19,628	23,879
Adults—Infirm and Unemployable				
Number licensed	150	167	163	170
Capacity	2,222	2,426	2,510	2,671
Number of persons under care	3,299	3,612	3,645	3,775
Number of days' care	664,429	724,980	761,642	803,705
Adults—Employable				
Number licensed	4	4	5	5
Capacity	58	69	75	75
Number of persons under care	390	411	504	557
Number of days' care	16,825	17,012	17,338	19,809
Women—Maternity				
Number licensed	3	3	3	3
Capacity (mothers and infants)	115	115	115	115
Number of persons under care—				
Mothers	219	271	278	319
Infants	225	201	209	235
Number of days' care	26,240	26,671	26,307	29,309

Table II.—Case Load Showing the Total Number of Licensed Institutions and Pending Applications, 1957

	Licensed Jan. 1, 1957	Licensed in 1957	Licensed Institutions Closed in 1957	Total Cases Licensed at Dec. 31, 1957
Licensed				
Children—total care—				
1. Boarding homes	48	6	11	43
2. Institutions	10	----	1	9
3. Camps	65	8	1	72
Children—day care—				
1. Kindergartens	188	55	26	217
2. Schools for retarded children	7	6	1	12
3. Foster day care	24	11	5	30
Aged—				
1. Boarding homes	108	27	24	111
2. Institutions	32	3	1	34
Adults—employable	5	----	----	5
Homes—maternity	3	----	----	3
Totals	490	116	70	536

Licensed January 1st, 1957	490
Licensed in 1957	116
	606
Closed	70
	536

	Pending Jan. 1, 1957	New Cases in 1957	Closed in 1957	Total Pending Dec. 31, 1957
Licences Pending				
Children—total care—				
1. Boarding homes	8	55	50	13
2. Institutions		----	----	----
3. Camps	11	7	10	8
Children—day care—				
1. Kindergarten	50	100	116	34
2. Schools for retarded children	6	10	6	10
3. Foster day care	10	41	33	18
Aged—				
1. Boarding homes	27	66	70	23
2. Institutions	3	7	7	3
Homes—maternity	----	----	----	----
Adults—employable		1	1	----
Totals	115	287	293	109

Carried from January 1st, 1957	115
New cases	287
	402
Closed	293
	109

Total Case Load

Licensed	536
Pending	109
	645

MEMBERS OF BOARD

The following are the members of the Welfare Institutions Board for 1957:—

Chairman: Mr. J. A. Sadler, Director of Welfare.

Members: Dr. A. A. Larsen, Consultant Epidemiologist, Department of Health and Welfare; Mr. F. P. Levirs, Chief Inspector of Schools, Department of Education; Miss Ruby McKay, Superintendent, Child Welfare Division; and Mr. A. A. Shipp, Assistant Administrator, Region II, Social Welfare Branch.

Chief Inspector: Mrs. Edna L. Page.

Respectfully submitted.

(MRS.) EDNA L. PAGE,
Chief Inspector of Welfare Institutions.

PART IV.—MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT, DIVISION OF TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL

During the ten years since the introduction of antimicrobial therapy there has been steady progress in the handling of tuberculosis in British Columbia. The usual recommended treatment period for patients receiving antimicrobial therapy is from eighteen months to two years; however, patients ordinarily spend only a portion of this time in hospital. In 1957 the total admissions to all treatment centres was 1,003*. Of these, 687 patients remained in hospital under seven months and over one-third remained three months or less. Because the hospital treatment period is shorter, there has been a gradual decline in the number of beds required for in-patient treatment. During the five years from January 1st, 1953, to December 31st, 1957, the number of beds in operation by the Division dropped from 935 to 521. It is anticipated that if the present trend continues, it will be possible, probably during the latter part of 1958, to accommodate all patients requiring hospital treatment in the Vancouver units, where 367 beds are in operation—264 at Pearson unit and 103 at Willow Chest Centre. As a result of the decreased need for treatment beds, the Division has already closed the two Victoria units, and during the year has operated only one building at Tranquille. There is social service staff in each of the in-patient treatment units.

The finding of previously unknown cases of tuberculosis in the community is one of the most important aspects of tuberculosis control to-day, and during the year the Division continued to accelerate its case-finding programme. This aspect of the total programme for tuberculosis control does not directly involve the Social Service Department.

In anticipation of changes in the structure of the Tuberculosis Division and at the same time to follow up the internal reorganization of the Social Service Department referred to in the previous annual report, there have been a number of changes in Social Service Department structure and function. These developments have resulted in improved service to patients and more economical use of staff time. During the year Social Service Department planning has been focused on the delineation of specific areas in which the hospital social worker can help patients who experience difficulty with the social aspects of the illness. In order to co-ordinate social service activity with total treatment, several devices were used. A referral form was prepared so that other professional staff could make use of the Department, at appropriate times, for the treatment of social and emotional problems which might otherwise hamper the patient's ability to make use of medical treatment. In the short time that this form has been in use there are indications that in addition to its being a valuable means of alerting the Department to the needs of the patients, it is also an effective way of improving interdepartmental communication. During the year a further major step was taken in interpretation and clarification of the Social Service Department function within the hospital, when arrangements were made to place recording of social service activity on the patients' medical records. The attempt was made to have this recording concise and clearly related to the medical treatment plan. In situations where intensive casework service was being carried on, an additional social service record was maintained so that these cases could be studied in more detail by the social worker and supervisor. Also, as part of the general plan to share social service activity more completely with other hospital treatment staff, correspondence with Social Welfare Branch offices and social agencies was placed on medical records.

During the year the total number of interviews by the staff in all units involving casework service to patients was 3,007, and the number of conferences with other pro-

*Annual Report of Division of Tuberculosis Control for calendar year 1957.

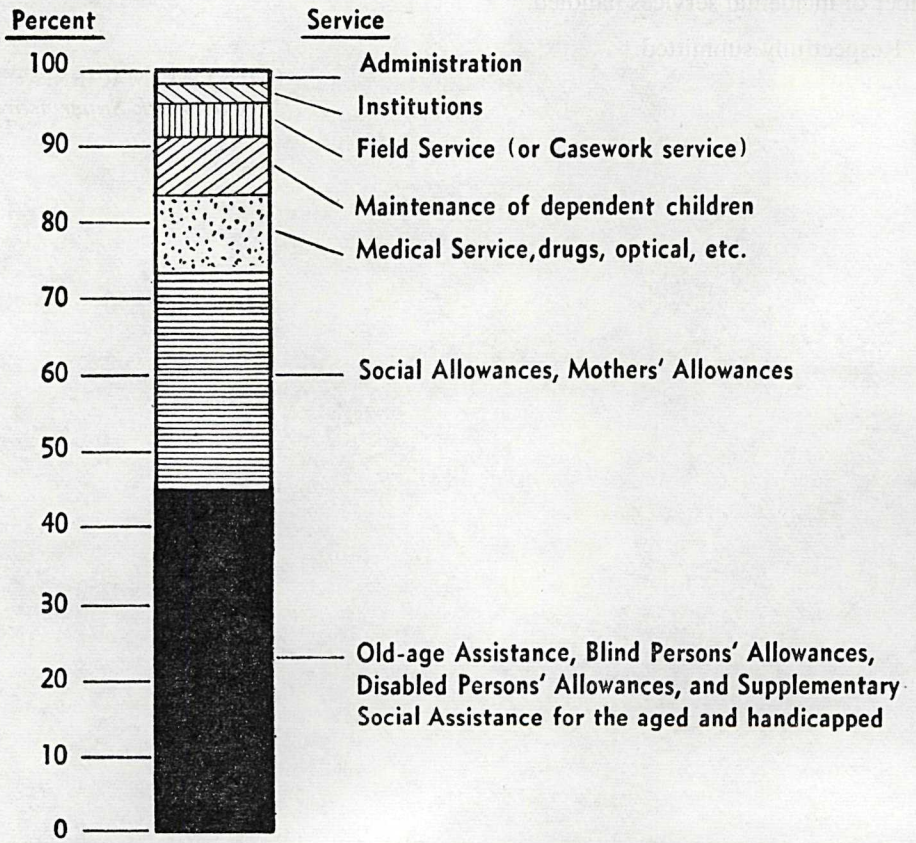
fessional workers was 2,561. There was some monthly fluctuation in the number of casework interviews and conferences, but the actual volume of cases handled on a long-term basis remained fairly constant throughout the year. At the same time there was a steady monthly decrease in the number of interviews and conferences on an incidental service basis. These involved such services as confirming financial eligibility for appliances. The changing emphasis in the Department in demonstrated by the marked decrease in the number of incidental services handled.

Respectfully submitted.

(Miss) M. MacInnis,
Casework Supervisor.

PART V.—ACCOUNTING DIVISION

The functions of the Accounting Division of the Department of Health and Welfare are to control expenditures, process accounts for payment, account for revenue, forecast expenditures, and prepare the Departmental estimates of revenue and expenditures in their final form.



The gross expenditure of the Welfare Branch increased by $2,295,900 from $26,592,160 in 1956/57 to $28,888,060 in 1957/58. This was an increase of 8.6 per cent. Despite the increase, the breakdown into main services, as shown in the chart, is almost unchanged. The following table shows this clearly:—

Main Service	Proportion of Total Welfare Expenditure 1956/57 (Per Cent)	1957/58 (Per Cent)
Administration	1.7	1.7
Institutions	2.8	2.8
Field service	4.3	4.5
Maintenance of dependent children	7.6	7.6
Medical services, drugs, optical, etc.	10.0	9.9
Social Allowance, Mothers' Allowance	28.6	28.6
Old-age Assistance, Blind Persons' Allowance, Disabled Persons' Allowance, and supplementary social assistance for the aged and handicapped	45.0	44.9
Totals	100.0	100.0

The allowances paid directly to the individuals receiving the benefit (Old-age Assistance, Disabled Persons' Allowance, Blind Persons' Allowance, and supplementary assistance for the aged and handicapped, Social Allowance, and Mothers' Allowance) formed 73.6 per cent of the total expenditure. Payments to foster-parents, health services, institutional care, and the cost of social workers' services were 24.7 per cent of the total expenditure. This left 1.7 per cent for pure administration, as shown in the table.

During the year the Research and Statistics Section of the Accounting Division, in conjunction with members of the Welfare Branch, continued to work on the development of statistical reporting within the Branch. This included work on problem classification, intake statistics, and a new Social Allowance application form.

The Mechanical Superintendent and his assistant made quarterly visits throughout the Province, checking the mechanical conditions of all Welfare Branch motor-vehicles. There were eighty-eight of these vehicles at March 31st, 1958, and during the year 1957/58 they travelled a total distance of 601,229 miles in all types of weather and road conditions. In addition, during the year, the social workers operated ninety-five privately owned vehicles on a mileage basis. They travelled a total of 378,647 miles in the course of their daily duties. The total mileage for the year was 979,876.

The Mechanical Supervisor continued to stress safety in the operation of Branch vehicles on his trips throughout the Province.

The Chief Clerk in charge of the Welfare Accounting Section attended all in-service training classes giving instructions to the student workers on accounting procedures pertaining to the Welfare divisions.

The Departmental Comptroller and other members of the Accounting Division attended the planning councils and Branch meetings, with continued discussion with divisional heads on matters pertaining to expenditure throughout the Welfare Branch.

J. McDiarmid,
Departmental Comptroller.

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