PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Annual Report of the

Department of Social Welfare

for the
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST
1959

Printed by DON MCDIARMID, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
in right of the Province of British Columbia.
1960

VICTORIA, B.C., November 6th, 1959.

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 Department of Social Welfare for the year ended March 31st, 1959, is herewith respectfully submitted.

W. D. BLACK,
Minister of Social Welfare.

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

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE,
VICTORIA, B.C., November 6th, 1959.

The Honourable W. D. Black,
Minister of Social Welfare, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Department of Social Welfare for the year ended March 31st, 1959.

E. R. RICKINSON,
Deputy Minister of Social Welfare.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE,
VICTORIA, B.C., November 6th, 1959.

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

SIR,—I submit herewith the Report of the Department of Social Welfare for the year ended March 31st, 1959.

J. A. SADLER,
Director of Social Welfare.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959

Hon. W. D. BLACK ..... *Minister of Social Welfare.*

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

E. R. RICKINSON ..... *Deputy Minister.*

J. A. SADLER ..... *Director of Social Welfare.*

Miss MARIE RIDDELL ..... *Assistant Director of Social Welfare.*

J. MCDIARMID ..... *Departmental Comptroller.*

Mrs. JEAN SCOTT ..... *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 M. MACINNIS ..... *Supervisor, Social Service Department, Division of Tuberculosis Control.*

F. G. HASSARD ..... *Superintendent, Brannen Lake School for Boys.*

Miss W. M. URQUHART ..... *Superintendent, Willingdon School for Girls.*

G. P. WILLIE ..... *Superintendent, Provincial Home.*

E. L. RIMMER ..... *Administrator, Region I.*

H. E. BLANCHARD ..... *Administrator, Region II.*

R. I. STRINGER ..... *Administrator, Region III.*

R. J. BURNHAM ..... *Administrator, Region IV.*

V. H. DALLAMORE ..... *Administrator, Region V.*

A. E. BINGHAM ..... *Administrator, Region VI.*

W. H. CROSSLEY ..... *Administrator, Region VII.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Part I.—General Administration—	
Director of Social Welfare	9
Assistant Director of Social Welfare	11
Part II.—Regional Administration—	
Region I	14
Region II	16
Region III	18
Region IV	20
Region V	22
Region VI	24
Region VII	26
Part III.—Divisional Administration—	
Family Division—	
Social Allowances	29
Mothers' Allowances	34
Family Service	38
Child Welfare Division	43
Old-age Assistance, Blind Persons' Allowances, Disabled Persons' Allowances, and Supplementary Assistance	53
Medical Services Division	74
Part IV.—Institutions—	
Industrial School for Boys	76
Industrial School for Girls	81
Provincial Home, Kamloops	85
Welfare Institutions Board	88
Part V.—Medical Social Work Services—	
Social Service Department, Division of Tuberculosis Control	92
Part VI.—Accounting Division	94

Report of the Department of Social Welfare

PART I.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

In the fiscal year under review, welfare services were the responsibility of the Social Welfare Branch, Department of Health and Welfare, until March 20th, 1959, when the *Department of Social Welfare Act* was proclaimed by Order in Council No. 558. The Social Welfare Branch, Department of Health and Welfare, then ceased to exist, and welfare services fell within the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Welfare.

On September 1st, 1958, by agreement with the municipalities, a new equalization of Social Allowance costs was introduced. The plan was developed to equalize costs on a *per capita* basis throughout the Province, and the Provincial Government agreed to share Social Allowance costs with the municipalities on the formula of 90 per cent Provincial payment and 10 per cent municipal payment. It has been a major step forward, with details of residence and responsibility within the Province eliminated and intermunicipal-Provincial billing is simplified. Also on that date Mothers' Allowance cases were transferred to Social Allowance for administrative purposes.

Steps were taken to decentralize authority under the *Children's Protection Act,* with responsibility placed in the field offices for action to be taken without prior referral to the Child Welfare Division. Due to certain amendments to the *Municipal Act,* some municipalities were relieved of their responsibility for the costs and administration of welfare services. A change was made in the charge for services by the Province to municipalities purchasing social welfare services in their areas. The *per capita* payment was increased April 1st, 1958, from 15 cents to 30 cents.

Throughout the year the Research and Office Consultants, in addition to activities in their respective fields of research and office procedures, have been revising the Departmental policy manuals. The Civil Defence Liaison Officer has continued his lecture programme to local groups throughout the Province and has been engaged in the preparation of material in connection with civil defence welfare services.

The following tables show, on a comparative basis, case loads and changes in case loads:—

Table I.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories as at March 31st for the Years 1958 and 1959

Category	1958		1959	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Totals for Province	61,783	100.0	69,046	100.0
Family Service	1,296	2.1	1,317	1.9
Social Allowance	10,658	17.3	17,578	25.5
Blind Persons' Allowance[1]	671	1.1	660	1.0
Old-age Assistance[1]	8,385	13.6	8,544	12.4
Old Age Security supplementary assistance[1]	32,761	53.0	32,239	46.7
Disabled Persons' Allowance[1]	1,453	2.4	1,666	2.4
Child Welfare	5,896	9.5	6,379	9.2
Health and Institutional	663	1.1	663	1.0

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

Table II.—Movement in Case Load during Fiscal Year 1958/59

Major Category of Service	Cases Opened during Year		Cases Closed during Year	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	2,084	3.5	2,063	3.9
Social Allowance	30,495	51.6	24,078	46.0
Blind Persons' Allowance	338	0.6	349	0.7
Disabled Persons' Allowance	929	1.6	716	1.4
Old-age Assistance	5,997	10.1	5,838	11.1
Old Age Security supplementary assistance	12,427	21.0	12,949	24.7
Child Welfare	6,379	10.8	5,897	11.3
Health and Institutional	486	0.8	485	0.9
Totals for Province	59,135	100.0	52,375	100.0

Table III.—Number of Cases by Category and as a Percentage of Population as at March 31st for the Years 1958 and 1959

Category	1958		1959	
	Number	Per Cent of Population (1,487,000)	Number	Per Cent of Population (1,544,000)
Totals for Province	61,783	4.15	69,046	4.47
Family Service	1,296	0.09	1,317	0.09
Social Allowance	10,658	0.72	17,578	1.14
Blind Persons' Allowance[1]	671	0.05	660	0.04
Old-age Assistance[1]	8,385	0.56	8,544	0.55
Old Age Security supplementary assistance[1]	32,761	2.20	32,239	2.09
Disabled Persons' Allowance[1]	1,453	0.10	1,666	0.11
Child Welfare	5,896	0.40	6,379	0.41
Health and Institutional	663	0.04	663	0.04

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

The above tables show a marked increase in the Social Allowance case load in the Province. This increase in case load and the increase in activity in the case load is due to the unemployment situation which has developed this year.

As the report will show, there has been an increased demand for services not only in the field of Social Allowance where, due to pressures from many unemployed persons asking for temporary help, the work programme has changed somewhat, with emphasis being placed on the meeting of immediate need, but also in connection with the boys' and girls' schools with increased populations in both schools, and in family and children's services.

Municipal officials, together with officials of private agencies and many other organizations, have continued their kind co-operation as in the past and this co-operation is appreciated by the staff of this Department.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. SADLER,
Director of Social Welfare.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

I wish to submit the report of the Assistant Director of Social Welfare for the fiscal year April, 1958, to March, 1959.

The Assistant Director of Social Welfare shares in part in the planning of the over-all administration of the Department; is responsible for certain duties delegated by the Director of Social Welfare; and is primarily responsible for maintaining social work and clerical staff for the field service and divisions of the Department. In so far as the social-work staff is concerned the major portion of responsibility for recruitment, and in-service training and placement of staff, is delegated to the Provincial Supervisor of Training and her assistant. Office management is the responsibility of the Office Consultant, also a member of the staff of the Assistant Director of Social Welfare.

Legislatively the responsibility of the Department is defined as " all matters relating to social and public welfare and social assistance." This, then, does not mean solely the administration or granting of financial assistance, which is only a part of a social-welfare programme. It also means a casework service for individuals and families who come to us for help, in order to alleviate or resolve problems of personality or relationship, apart from economic problems, so that they may live happier and more satisfying lives and fulfil their maximum potential as citizens.

To do this demands special skill and knowledge which social workers must learn and continue to develop through experience. The social workers, too, must find happiness and satisfaction in their work, for without these, frustration and a lack of sense of achievement are inevitable, which even loyalty to social work cannot dispel.

The skill and knowledge required of a social worker are learned in professional training at a school of social work, and it is the goal of the Department to employ as many professionally trained staff as possible. There is, however, a continuing shortage of professionally trained social workers and many agencies have had to plan other means to fill staff vacancies.

This Department has had for many years an in-service training programme for appointees lacking professional qualifications. At this time a tribute should be paid to the in-service trainees, for they have formed a dependable portion of our staff complement and without them the Department could not have achieved the enviable reputation for service which it has had in the past. It should be pointed out, however, that in-service training is training only for work in the Department and cannot be considered as a substitute for professional training.

Therefore each In-Service Trainee is encouraged to make plans for educational leave to attend the School of Social Work at U.B.C. at the earliest possible opportunity. To assist in such plans the Department has provision for a few bursaries. During the year under review six staff members were on educational leave, of which four were awarded bursaries toward the full costs of an academic year.

In addition to in-service training and educational leave, other means of professional development are encouraged. District staff meetings, held with reasonable regularity, help social-work staff to increase their knowledge and develop their skills. Other devices are regular District Supervisors' and regional staff meetings. The latter are held annually, in so far as possible, with institute leaders brought in from outside the Department or leadership provided by senior Department personnel, to concentrate on some particular aspect of social work or the social-welfare programme of the Department.

Still another device for staff development is the arranging, whenever possible, for attendance of selected members of staff to attend national social-work conferences or regional conferences of national and international organizations.

Such devices are essential and their benefits beyond measure if a progressive and competent social-work staff is to be maintained.

For the clerical staff of the service the need for training and encouragement is equally important, and the services of the Office Consultant are always available by correspondence or by frequent visits to the various district offices to share her knowledge of and experience in office management.

Competence and skill alone are not enough for the social worker unless conditions of work give opportunities for using the knowledge and skill he has; otherwise the quality and quantity of the service of the Department is affected. The manner in which the staff has met the challenge of a total case load which rose from 61,783 to 69,046 in this fiscal year, with a monthly average active case load of 14,572, is beyond all praise.

Neither could the social workers meet this challenge without the able support of the clerical staff, for their responsibilities are many, too. Not to be excluded from any expression of appreciation are the staffs of the two correctional schools and all divisions of the Department. Each staff member, whatever his role or responsibility, contributes immeasurably by his efforts and loyalty to the work of the Department in the alleviation of human need and suffering.

The following table shows the total number of staff (clerical, professional, and technical) that were employed and their location in the Department as at March 31st, 1959:—

Office of Deputy Minister	2
Director of Welfare	4
Field Service	290
Medical Services Division	12
Child Welfare Division	18
Provincial Home	34
Brannen Lake School for Boys	62
Girls' Industrial School	50
Old-age Assistance Board	74
Family Division	5
Total	551

The following table gives the total social-work staff employed for the fiscal years ending March 31st, 1958, and March 31st, 1959:—

	University Trained	In-service Trained	Total
Total staff, March 31st, 1958	93	121	214
Completed formal training during fiscal year	+6	−6	
	99	115	214
Staff appointed April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959	6	50	56
	105	165	270
Resignations, April 1st,1958, to March 31st, 1959	28	33	61
Totals as at March 31st, 1959	77	132	209

During the year under review there were 149 resignations and an equal number of replacements to fill them. So that, in all, responsibility for appointment, promotion, reclassification, and processing of resignations covered a total of 363 staff members.

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

The Department was represented at three conferences and institutes related to social welfare and seven delegates attended. In addition, other members attended on their own time and at their own expense.

During this fiscal year two combined District Supervisors' meetings were held. The District Supervisors of Regions V and VII met at Prince George and of Regions III and IV at Kelowna. The Assistant Director of Social Welfare attended both, thus also permitting a visit to various district offices in the four regions.

This fiscal year saw the long-awaited opening of the new correctional school, Willingdon School for Girls, with adequate and well appointed facilities for a treatment programme, which was the goal of the Girls' Industrial School Advisory Committee chaired by the previous Assistant Director of Welfare.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincerest thanks for the co-operation shown administration by the staff, and a special word of appreciation to the staff for their devotion and untiring efforts to maintain the programme of the Department.

My personal thanks go to the staff, professional and clerical, of my own office, on whose support and willingness I can depend at all times.

Respectfully submitted.

(MISS) MARIE RIDDELL,
Assistant Director of Social Welfare.

PART II.—REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION

REGION I

I submit herewith the annual report for the fiscal year 1958/59, which outlines statistical information, and, briefly, a résumé of the activities of welfare services in this region, designated for administrative purposes as Region I. This region 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, Gulf Islands, Duncan, Nanaimo, etc. Because of migratory population these figures might be slightly over or under last year's quoted census population figure.

The welfare field staff, servicing the people in the area, consists of thirty-two social workers, with four supervisors, two municipal administrators, and one Regional Administrator.

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	14	36	36	44	.....	6	40	176
Social Allowance	297	269	213	610	127	1,053	269	2,838
Blind Persons' Allowance	3	7	9	13	6	37	12	87
Old-age Assistance	115	142	104	227	96	464	179	1,327
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	314	527	472	965	835	2,148	1,053	6,314
Disabled Persons' Allowance	15	33	16	43	30	76	47	260
Child Welfare	146	222	156	192	.....	.....	126	842
Health and Institutional	13	11	19	22	28	43	46	182
Totals	917	1,247	1,025	2,116	1,122	3,827	1,772	12,026

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region I for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	165	1.5	176	1.5
Social Allowance	1,588	14.7	2,838	23.6
Blind Persons' Allowance	90	0.8	87	0.7
Old-age Assistance	1,317	12.2	1,327	11.0
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	6,417	59.5	6,314	52.5
Disabled Persons' Allowance	235	2.2	260	2.2
Child Welfare	794	7.4	842	7.0
Health and Institutional	182	1.7	182	1.5
Totals	10,788	100.0	12,026	100.0

Table III.—Analysis of Case Load and Population in Each Municipality of Region I at March 31st, 1959, as Related to The Administrative Plan (Section 6 of the Regulations under the Social Assistance Act).

Area	Population 1956 Census	Welfare Services		
		Per Capita Plan	Amalgamated Plan	Welfare Case Load
City of Alberni	3,947	×	------	148
City of Port Alberni	10,373	×	------	429
Village of Campbell River	3,069	(1)	------	------
Municipality of Central Saanich	2,477	×	------	103
Village of Cumberland	1,039	(1)	------	------
City of Courtenay	3,025	×	------	121
City of Duncan	3,247	×	------	188
Municipality of Esquimalt	10,384	×	------	271
Village of Ladysmith	2,107	(1)	------	------
City of Nanaimo	12,705	×	------	949
Village of Lake Cowichan	1,949	(1)	------	------
Municipality of North Cowichan	7,781	×	------	305
Village of Qualicum	726	(1)	------	------
Municipality of Oak Bay	14,857	×	------	254
Municipality of Saanich	38,358	------	×	1,122
City of Victoria	54,584	------	×	3,827
Village of Alert Bay	895	(1)	------	------
Village of Comox	1,151	(1)	------	------
Village of Parksville	1,112	(1)	------	------
Village of Sidney	1,371	(1)	------	------
Village of Tofino	389	(1)	------	------
Village of Ucluelet	520	(1)	------	------
Village of Zeballos	154	(1)	------	------

(1) Organized villages not liable for welfare costs (subsection 2 of section 639 of the *Municipal Act*).

Total case load in organized territory	7,717
Total case load in unorganized territory	4,309
Total case load for region	12,026
Social welfare case load	12,026
Total number of individuals, including dependents	14,954
Approximate percentage, case load to population (245,000)	4.9%
Approximate percentage, total individuals to population	6%

In this region there is accommodation in private hospitals for approximately 600 persons and accommodation in licensed boarding homes for 700 persons. The monthly rates paid for maintenance of welfare cases in these establishments ranged from $75 to $165. Overtures have been made repeatedly for the rates to be increased, but the degree of care offered by the individual establishment is a governing factor and this is being watched closely.

The Family Service and Child Welfare case load was relatively high and within this group were found most complex and time-consuming problems. Coupled with the work required in the above two categories, the processing of applications for old-age assistance and proving eligibility for public aid for employable and unemployable persons, the field staff have experienced a very trying year.

In conclusion, I report that the turmoil of industrial labour disputes again took its toll, with its immediate disruptory effects and aftermath of readjustments in the economy of this area which, of course, placed heavier burdens on the social welfare staff. Grateful acknowledgment is given to all who participated.

Respectfully submitted.

E. L. Rimmer,
Regional Administrator.

REGION II

I beg to submit the following report of the activities of the Department of Social Welfare in Region II for the fiscal year 1958/59:—

There have been no changes in the boundaries of the administrative unit known as Region II since March 31st, 1958. The municipal administrative units within the region have likewise remained the same.

The existing offices, as of March 31st, 1959, therefore, are again 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 (Department of Social Welfare offices under the charge of district supervisors, serving unorganized areas and *per capita* municipalities): New Westminster district office, serving unorganized areas and the muncipalities of Delta, Fraser Mills, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody; Vancouver district office, serving unorganized areas of University of British Columbia Endowment Lands, North Arm of Burrard Inlet, Howe Sound, Cheakamus Valley, Sechelt Peninsula, Ocean Falls, and surrounding coast; Westview district office, serving the District of Powell River and surrounding area.

The following tables show the distribution of case load in the various categories, Table I for the years 1957/58 and 1958/59 (April 1st to March 31st) for the whole of Region II, while Table II shows the breakdown of cases carried by District and Municipal offices. 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 children's aid societies.

Table I.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region II for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	306	1.2	220	0.8
Social Allowance	3,918	15.3	7,183	25.3
Blind Persons' Allowance	279	1.1	275	1.0
Old-age Assistance	3,565	13.9	3,739	13.1
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	15,300	59.8	14,697	51.6
Disabled Persons' Allowance	591	2.3	681	2.4
Child Welfare	1,457	5.7	1,472	5.2
Health and Institutional	173	0.7	177	0.6
Totals	25,589	100.0	28,444	100.0

Table II.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region II as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Burnaby	Coquitlam	New Westminster City	New Westminster District	North Vancouver	Richmond	Vancouver City	Vancouver District	West Vancouver	Westview	Total
Family Service	25	17	56	18	28	22	.....	20	8	26	220
Social Allowance	518	123	467	199	198	138	5,303	103	36	98	7,183
Blind Persons' Allowance	34	7	20	2	10	2	192	4	3	1	275
Old-age Assistance	456	80	208	102	129	93	2,470	88	73	40	3,739
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	2,264	286	773	449	848	414	8,757	419	317	170	14,697
Disabled Persons' Allowance	76	24	35	21	33	34	423	18	14	3	681
Child Welfare	380	133	134	123	135	123	.....	317	37	90	1,472
Health and Institutional	50	1	16	8	31	12	.....	30	16	13	177
Totals	3,803	671	1,709	922	1,412	838	17,145	999	504	441	28,444

Unemployment continued to be an important factor during this year. The trend, started last year, continued at an accelerated rate. The Vancouver and New Westminster offices took the brunt of it due to location. Vancouver, being a large centre with the possibility of securing aid from voluntary agencies if work was not available, was attractive to transients. New Westminster is the gateway to Region II and tends to receive requests for assistance from transients moving in and out of the region.

Table III compares these two centres and their activities relating to unemployed persons requiring assistance. This table represents cases which include heads of families and their dependents, as well as single persons.

Table III.—Unemployed Employables

	Vancouver		New Westminster	
	Number of Cases	Cost	Number of Cases	Cost
1958				
March	565	$27,925	15	$615
April	686	34,797	19	807
May	744	41,182	12	595
June	799	43,838	15	750
July	1,348	59,817	26	1,176
August	1,728	98,420	67	3,210
September	1,831	107,323	74	4,912
October	1,951	110,980	73	5,441
November	2,276	129,025	152	6,910
December	2,504	142,083	199	8,948
1959				
January	2,175	121,294	221	9,984
February	2,327	131,832	216	10,295
March	2,393	138,485	201	10,391

However, figures on straight unemployment, as it relates to employable persons, do not show the complete picture. When able-bodied persons are out of work, those partially able to support themselves have little chance of getting employment. Table IV therefore shows a comparison between the same two centres, Vancouver and New Westminster, as regards total numbers and expenditures for social assistance. The figures shown are inclusive of those in Table III.

The totals for Region II on the same basis as in Table IV were at March 31st, 1959, for that month as follows:—Number of persons in families, 7,876, $214,767; single persons, 4,461, $222,061.

Table IV.—Social Allowance Cases

	Vancouver					New Westminster				
	Number of Persons in Families	Cost per Month	Number of Single Persons	Cost per Month	Total Cost	Number of Persons in Families	Cost per Month	Number of Single Persons	Cost per Month	Total Cost
1958										
March	2,228	$54,874	2,067	$97,513	$152,387	263	$6,748	136	$5,808	$12,556
April	2,378	64,293	2,138	105,819	170,112	251	7,685	137	6,327	14,012
May	2,425	67,287	2,201	110,649	177,936	281	7,725	143	6,761	14,486
June	2,428	67,997	2,236	110,581	178,578	298	8,251	130	6,155	14,406
July	3,098	79,081	2,668	118,778	197,859	290	8,330	134	5,688	14,018
August	3,404	92,800	3,122	151,973	244,773	379	10,455	160	6,902	17,357
September	3,887	116,485	3,081	152,781	269,266	405	11,855	158	7,211	19,066
October	4,121	112,074	3,221	155,856	267,930	399	11,454	178	7,750	19,204
November	4,378	119,001	3,507	170,684	289,685	424	11,541	234	9,240	20,781
December	4,563	135,246	3,686	178,817	314,063	461	13,550	282	11,728	25,278
1959										
January	4,291	118,159	3,503	170,983	289,142	560	13,093	293	12,145	25,238
February	4,383	120,214	3,663	182,577	302,791	485	13,348	290	12,407	25,755
March	4,505	124,394	3,678	185,187	309,581	553	14,956	269	12,311	27,267

I would like to take this opportunity to state that I have met with a large measure of co-operation from persons in other public agencies and departments, as well as from private agencies. The work of the Department of Social Welfare is broad beyond the scope of the above report. The generalized case load carried by most areas in Region II brings one into contact with cases as varied as human experience. The field staff, municipal and provincial, who are the key persons in the standards of service provided, must be given credit for the skill with which they meet the pressures inherent in their task. They are to be commended 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 1958/59.

There have been no changes in the regional boundaries during the past year. 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, and on the west by Bralorne. The principal concentrations of population are in and around the cities of Kamloops, Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton. The Social Welfare Branch services are provided from six provincial offices, one each located at Kamloops, Kelowna, Penticton, Oliver, Salmon Arm, and Vernon, and four amalgamated offices located at Kamloops, Kelowna, Penticton, and Vernon.

The Social Welfare Branch provides welfare services in the municipalities of Armstrong, Enderby, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, and Summerland, these services being paid for by the municipalities concerned on a *per capita* basis. During the year, the Provincial Government relieved the municipalities of Peachland, Spallumcheen, Coldstream, and Glenmore of responsibility for all welfare costs and administration. These responsibilities were assumed by the Provincial Government through the local offices of the Social Welfare Branch.

The population in this region continues to grow at an estimated 5 to 7 per cent per year, which is higher than the Provincial average. This increase in population has resulted in a greater demand for our services, which is confirmed in the statistics which follow.

As noted in last year's report, this region has a mixed economy which has, in the past, tended to provide an adequate income for the majority of the residents. However, in spite of this, the anticipated increase in unemployed persons requiring assistance has occurred, and this would seem to be largely because of the tightening economy throughout the rest of the Province. Persons have come to this region seeking seasonal work picking fruit and vegetables or in the lumbering industry. In spite of the fact that there has been the usual amount of employment, it has not been enough to take care of the large influx of unemployed persons from other areas. As a result, there has been a greatly increased demand on our services. This year there was $162,650.07 dispensed to assist employable persons. This is an amount eight times greater than that dispensed in the year before, which in turn was three times greater than the previous year.

The foregoing comments on assistance to employable persons are supported by the fact that the social assistance case load increased from 18.7 per cent of the total case load to 25.6 per cent, and the total case load increased from 7,083 to 8,133, an increase of 14.8 per cent.

From the above it can be seen that the work load carried by the staff in this region has increased at a considerable rate, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for the extra efforts they have been making and for the loyalty and high ideals and principles that they have maintained under considerable pressures.

The following tables show the regional case load as of March 31st, 1958, and March 31st, 1959, by types of assistance and location of servicing offices.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region III as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Kamloops	Kelowna	Penticton	Oliver	Salmon Arm	Vernon	Kamloops City	Kelowna City	Penticton City	Vernon City	Total
Family Service	102	40	68	14	14	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	265
Social Allowance	547	155	186	131	187	270	172	100	194	140	2,082
Blind Persons' Allowance	22	12	6	3	9	9	3	9	6	8	87
Old-age Assistance	202	93	106	58	81	152	38	74	66	102	972
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	589	340	318	146	318	397	195	342	306	338	3,289
Disabled Persons' Allowance	29	35	29	9	18	28	12	35	16	21	232
Child Welfare	385	131	225	44	104	235	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,124
Health and Institutional	23	12	16	2	11	9	.....	5	4	.....	82
Totals	1,899	818	954	407	742	1,127	420	565	592	609	8,133

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region III for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	251	3.5	265	3.3
Social Allowance	1,326	18.7	2,082	25.6
Blind Persons' Allowance	81	1.1	87	1.1
Old age Assistance	892	12.6	972	12.0
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	3,234	45.7	3,289	40.4
Disabled Persons' Allowance	184	2.6	232	2.8
Child Welfare	1,028	14.5	1,124	13.8
Health and Institutional	87	1.2	82	1.0
Totals	7,083	100.0	8,133	100.0

Respectfully submitted.

R. I. STRINGER,
Regional Administrator.

REGION IV

I submit herewith the annual report on the activities of the Department of Social Welfare in Region IV for the fiscal year 1958/59.

Region IV is located in the south-eastern section of the Province, forming a rough triangle, with Alberta and the International Border outlining the eastern and southern boundaries. The third line of the triangle can be traced through the immediate areas around Golden in the north to Nakusp and Greenwood to the south. The total area covered by this region is approximately 28,000 square miles of mountains and valleys, threaded with rivers and dotted with lakes. The present population figure for this region is approximately 114,000.

There are one municipal and seven Provincial offices in this area. The seven Provincial offices provide services for seven cities—Cranbrook, Kimberley, Fernie, Nelson, Grand Forks, Rossland, and Greenwood. Kaslo and Slocan have dropped their status as cities, thereby saving themselves the cost of welfare services. The City of Trail continues to administer its own welfare programme but will probably request the Department of Social Welfare to undertake this responsibility as from April 1st, 1960.

This year has shown a continued upward trend in the amount of Social Allowance granted in the region, and this appears due to the progressively worsening employment situation. The commencement of construction of a large pulp-mill at Castlegar has attracted large numbers of job-seeking transients, many of whom have not been placed. This, in turn, has brought a particularly heavy increase of work in our Trail office handling the many requests for financial assistance. The numbers of family units and single persons assisted each month by this means increased by 35.5 per cent over last year. The total amount of assistance granted showed a corresponding increase.

It will be noted from Table II that all categories of services provided by our Department showed a gain in numbers during the year with the exception of Blind Persons' Allowances. These additional numbers of cases represent an increase of 11.6 per cent of our total case load since March 31st, 1958.

Boarding- and nursing-home facilities have increased in this region, but along with them has grown an ever-increasing need for this type of care for old people.

The Dr. Green Memorial Home has been opened in Cranbrook for persons in need of boarding-home care and has a number of beds vacant. Being a new resource, there is a natural reticence on the part of elderly people to seek admission immediately, but once a few have tried it and word is circulated, it will no doubt be filled to capacity. Mt. St. Francis, a nursing-home in Nelson with a bed capacity of ninety-eight, is hoping to eventually add a new floor to its building, which will provide room for another forty-eight to fifty patients. The need for this is definitely proven in the waiting lists for admission and the continual pressure we have from our general hospitals to move chronic patients into such an institution.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region IV as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Cranbrook	Creston	Fernie	Grand Forks	Nelson	New Denver	Trail	Trail Municipality	Total
Family Service	37	27	8	6	67	5	15	9	174
Social Allowance	226	134	80	137	334	72	198	115	1,296
Blind Persons' Allowance	6	1	4	9	1	3	4	2	30
Old-age Assistance	100	86	74	110	141	39	107	26	683
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	356	228	240	284	583	242	302	126	2,361
Disabled Persons' Allowance	19	23	18	18	24	5	28	7	142
Child Welfare	150	75	42	34	168	47	90	48	654
Health and Institutional	24	6	3	4	15	4	15	7	78
Totals	918	580	469	602	1,333	417	759	340	5,418

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region IV, as at March 31st, for the Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	143	2.9	174	3.2
Social Allowance	956	19.7	1,296	23.9
Blind Persons' Allowance	42	0.9	30	0.6
Old-age Assistance	592	12.2	683	12.6
Old Age Security supplementary allowance	2,330	48.0	2,361	43.6
Disabled Persons' Allowance	127	2.6	142	2.6
Child Welfare	590	12.1	654	12.1
Health and Institutional	77	1.6	78	1.4
Totals	4,857	100.0	5,418	100.0

In concluding, I would like to express thanks to all staff members in the region for their conscientious efforts to meet the many pressing needs with which they have been faced. I would like, also, to thank the municipal staffs, service clubs, and other organizations for their kind help and co-operation.

Respectfully submitted.

R. J. BURNHAM,
Regional Administrator.

REGION V

I beg to submit the following report of the activities of the Social Welfare Branch in Region V for the fiscal year 1958/59.

During the fiscal year under review the region continued to be served by six district offices situated in Fort St. John, Pouce Coupe, Prince George, Vanderhoof, Quesnel, and Williams Lake. However, the steady growth of population centred at some distances from these offices foreshadows the need of the establishment of other offices in the near future. In the meantime, office accommodations in the above centres have been improved or are planned for improvement. Most notable was the move of the Prince George office into the new Government Building on July 1st, 1958.

The number of municipalities responsible for welfare services was increased on June 1st, 1958, when the Village of Fort St. John was incorporated as a town. Now there are in the region four *per capita* municipalities—those of Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, Prince George, and Quesnel—and in these municipalities reside 34.1 per cent of our total case load.

Resources for our clients were enhanced by the opening of the Senior Citizens' Home in Prince George in February, 1959. This home provides accommodation for couples at a cost of $50 per month.

We are still facing serious difficulties in the lack of an adequate number of foster homes for children in care. On March 31st, 1959, we had 291 children in care and, on our books, 208 foster homes. During the year the number of children increased by fifty-five and the number of foster homes only increased by nine. Unfortunately, many of the foster homes included in the above figure are not available for use on occasion, and those that are available do not include a sufficient number of families who could take problem children or older children. We do not have too much difficulty in finding sufficient homes for infants.

In an effort to find more foster homes in Dawson Creek an ex-social worker was employed for approximately the month of May. There were twenty-three responses to newspaper and radio publicity but, out of these, only three proved satisfactory foster-home applicants.

Employment generally throughout the region remained on a comparably high level in that more people were working than previously. However, employment did not keep up to the growth of population, with a result that there were an increasing number of job seekers and many more applicants for social allowances. Because a higher proportion of applicants were residents of the area with family responsibility the amounts of our grants were considerably larger.

From Table I, which is shown below, it may readily be seen that the increase in case load largely took place in Social Allowance, which increased to become 31.6 per cent of the total case load. There is also a considerable increase in the number of Family Service cases, which is affected by the extra pressures of financial insecurity.

Table I.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region V for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	160	5.2	213	6.5
Social Allowance	941	30.7	1,038	31.5
Blind Persons' Allowance	49	1.6	44	1.3
Old-age Assistance	366	12.0	379	11.5
Old Age Security supplementary allowance	819	26.7	846	25.7
Disabled Persons' Allowance	33	1.1	42	1.3
Child Welfare	660	21.5	700	21.3
Health and Institutional	37	1.2	28	0.9
Totals	3,065	100.0	3,290	100.0

It is interesting to note that services to the younger portion of our population are increasing at a faster rate than services to the aged persons. For the first time the aged categories occupy less than 40 per cent of our total case load. It has always been proportionately a smaller part of our case load than is the situation throughout the Province as a whole but, in spite of some improvement in the resources for elderly people in the area, they are becoming an even lesser part of the group requiring and receiving our services.

Table II.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region V as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Fort St. John	Pouce Coupe	Prince George	Quesnel	Vanderhoof	Williams Lake	Total
Family Service	39	43	67	25	4	35	213
Social Allowance	76	169	518	108	48	119	1,038
Blind Persons' Allowance	2	2	11	—	12	17	44
Old-age Assistance	27	62	148	35	54	53	379
Old Age Security supplementary assistance	121	182	227	95	91	130	846
Disabled Persons' Allowance	3	11	10	6	3	9	42
Child Welfare	76	109	261	105	62	87	700
Health and Institutional	1	11	10	2	—	4	28
Totals	345	589	1,252	376	274	454	3,290

From Table II it may be seen that increases in total case loads occurred in all Offices except that of Vanderhoof. The decrease in the latter office is ascribed to very good employment opportunities arising out of construction in the area and a consistently improving standard of work being done there. A stable office staff has also contributed greatly to this. The greatest increase in case load, percentage-wise, occurred in the Fort St. John district, where the increase during the year amounted to 19 per cent. In November, 1958, social-work staff of this office was increased through the employment of a social worker on a half-time basis. Nevertheless, this office has responsibility for an extremely large area radiating from the Alaska Highway and pressures on staff there still continue at an inordinate level.

At the end of the fiscal year the pressure of work on staff members was greatest in the Prince George district, where the four social workers had responsibility for an average case load of 313, the largest in the region. This office also suffered greatly from change-over of staff. The district supervisor and three of the social workers had to resign during the year because of family responsibilities and the

other social worker moved elsewhere. There was some delay in the appointment of replacements for these persons and the situation was only held by the temporary appointment of two university students during the summer months.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all those members of the community who have given us so much help and co-operation in bringing service to our clients. I also wish to commend all staff on the energy and devotion they have given to their duties.

Respectfully submitted.

V. H. DALLAMORE,
Regional Administrator.

REGION VI

I herewith submit the following report, which gives a summary of the activities of the Department of Social Welfare in Region VI for the fiscal year 1958/59.

There was no change during the year in the regional boundaries. The region extends from the Pattullo Bridge, on both sides of the Fraser River, to Lytton and to the summit of the Hope–Princeton Highway, covering approximately 1,000 square miles. The population of the area is estimated at 155,000, 90 per cent of whom reside in the sixteen municipalities of the region.

Looked upon primarily as an agricultural area with logging and lumbering, the Fraser Valley is fast becoming a residential area with some light industry. Illustrative of this growth is the municipality of Surrey. In 1921 the population was 5,000, the present population is estimated at 60,000.

The Department of Social Welfare plays the key role in the community social services and it is the only social agency which offers a service to each and every community of the area.

Several noteworthy administrative changes occurred during the past year. The amalgamation of a municipal and Provincial office took place in two instances. In May the Chilliwhack Township municipal office amalgamated with the Chilliwack district office. This amalgamation resulted in the more efficient use of staff and made possible specialized case loads for the total district served. An amalgamation of the Langley municipal office and the Langley City district office in June also brought about an improved staff and administrative situation. These two amalgamations have proven to us the economic value of the larger administrative unit.

The supervisor finds the task lightened by amalgamation of offices, as case load assignments can be more reasonably and economically planned and schedules can be adopted and set more readily with all workers in one office. Time can be saved by supervisor who does not have to divide time between two offices. With less pressure the supervisor can maintain better supervision of the total job to be done. Amalgamation also results in the more efficient use of social workers and stenographic staff, all of which means a better service to the people to be served.

Effective September 1st, 1958, by Order in Council, the District of Kent was relieved of its responsibility for social-welfare costs under the terms of the *Municipal Act*. By a similar Order in Council, the Corporation of the District of Pitt Meadows was relieved of its responsibility, effective December 1st, 1958.

The amalgamations reduced the administrative offices in the region from eight to six. One of these, Surrey, is municipally administered, while White Rock, Langley, Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Haney are Provincially administered offices.

At the end of the year we were providing service for ten municipalities on a *per capita* basis and service in five municipalities which are not responsible for social-welfare costs.

The six administrative offices of the region at March 31st, 1959, were staffed by twenty-nine social workers, four district supervisors, one municipal administrator, and one Regional Administrator. The staff increased by one during the year, a municipally employed social worker. This was necessitated by the growth of population in the North Surrey area and the subsequent increase in need for our services.

The social welfare services available to the people of the region during the year were shaped by the general economic conditions which prevailed. As a result of an economic slump, by early fall our case load of unemployed employables skyrocketed. This sudden increase in applications for Social Allowance created problems in all offices. It became necessary for staff to concentrate on the task of meeting the dependency needs of an ever-increasing number of people, who had exhausted their unemployment insurance, their savings, and all employment resources. Priority was given to meeting the problems involved in people not having the necessary money to provide food, shelter, and clothing. It was not possible to meet these sudden demands with additional staff. Therefore, from necessity, procedures were streamlined and made more flexible so that needs might be quickly met.

In one office we were able to study the closed files on 100 single employable men (non-transient) and fifty employable men, with families, who received some assistance during the year under review. Approximately 60 per cent of the men were under 40 years of age. This group was largely unskilled men whose pattern appears to be to move from job to job, the first casualties of recession. The married men, who were in receipt of assistance for one month only (22 per cent), seemed to represent the more adequate men, who found new work. The single men, who were on for one month only (50 per cent), seemed unstable, the " no fixed address " person, who simply moved on. It was of interest to note that of the total group of 150 men, 53 per cent have been in British Columbia since 1940 or before, that is, at least eighteen years. Because home-visits were not made, we know little of the relationships or of the children in the family groups. Among the single men 66 per cent had no contact with any relative. Of the families studied, one-quarter owned or were buying their home and the balance were renting. From the rentals cited and from the assessed value of the homes owned and being purchased, marginal shelter would be indicated.

The case-load figures given in Table I reveal that our regional case load increased sharply during the year by 960 cases. Social Allowance increased by 762 cases, Child Welfare increased by 117 cases, while the pension categories, which make up 60 per cent of our total case load, increased by only 83 cases. Family service was the only category which did not increase.

A number of the municipalities engaged in the Federal Winter Works Programme which was in effect during the most difficult winter months of the year. Without this work, no doubt many more families would have required our services.

Table I.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region VI for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	180	2.2	168	1.8
Social Allowance	1,513	18.4	2,275	24.8
Blind Persons' Allowance	67	0.8	59	0.7
Old-age Assistance	1,108	13.5	1,100	12.0
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	4,086	49.8	4,141	45.1
Disabled Persons' Allowance	211	2.6	255	2.8
Child Welfare	963	11.7	1,080	11.8
Health and Institutional	85	1.0	95	1.0
Totals	8,213	100.0	9,173	100.0

Table II.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region VI as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Abbotsford	Chilliwack	Haney	Langley	Surrey	White Rock	Total
Family Service	20	51	26	21	44	6	168
Social Allowance	494	580	216	231	661	93	2,275
Blind Persons' Allowance	14	14	6	6	15	4	59
Old-age Assistance	250	219	112	127	338	54	1,100
Supplementary assistance	820	711	390	546	1,355	319	4,141
Disabled Persons Allowance	59	50	29	32	69	16	255
Child Welfare	162	222	130	200	352	14	1,080
Health and Institutional	23	15	11	8	23	15	95
Totals	1,842	1,862	920	1,171	2,857	521	9,173

An outstanding highlight of the past year has been the manner in which all staff, stenographers and social workers, Provincial employees and municipal employees, have responded to the heavy demands made upon them. They have worked together with dedication and skill to provide the best possible service.

Respectfully submitted.

A. E. BINGHAM,
Regional Administrator.

REGION VII

I submit herewith the annual report of the activities of the Department of Social Welfare in Region VII for the fiscal year 1958/59.

The geographic boundaries of the region remained the same. The region still embraces the area from Milbanke Sound to the Alaska Border along the coast-line and from the Queen Charlotte Islands eastward to Endako on Highway No. 16.

There was no change in the staff complement in the region either in numbers or distribution. We were, however, fortunate in having supervisory stability in the Prince Rupert-Terrace areas after a period of change and turnover in the previous year.

The administrative arrangements with municipalities remained the same, with our Departmnet doing the social work in the City of Prince Rupert and the District Municipality of Kitimat on the usual *per capita* basis.

The economic situation during the year was not as buoyant as previously experienced. The slump of early 1958 continued throughout 1958 and into 1959. Much of the activity in the region centres around the lumber industry, which suffered a market relapse in 1957/58, with recovery slowly appearing in early 1958. We were, in addition, affected by the recession in construction throughout the Province, so that aid to the unemployed unskilled labourer entering the region in search of work became extremely heavy. In Kitimat the abatement in aluminum production continued, with several more potlines being deactivated. The resultant lay-offs created some temporary financial difficulties for some families until they were re-employed as a result of natural staff turnover.

The case load in the region increased a total of 611 cases or 35.6 per cent. The largest increase was in Social Allowance cases, which increased 451 or more than 100 per cent. It is significant, however, that in the same period the Child Welfare case load increased 103 or 25.5 per cent, with the greatest increase arising in the number of children admitted to care under the *Protection of Children Act*. Children of full or part native-Indian extraction made up over 60 per cent of these admissions to care.

In December, 1958, the region became 1 year old, so that the interesting period of transition was nearly complete. This meant more time was available for administrative improvements and for vital social research. As a result there are achievements in both areas.

In the Prince Rupert office structural changes in conjunction with an office reorganization inspired by the supervisor have led to a more pleasant reception area for the clients as well as a much more efficient office. In Kitimat, as a result of joint meetings with co-operative municipal officials, we were given office space in the municipal building, and the services of their receptionist in making appointments for the social worker from Terrace, who now maintains a regular visiting schedule. This has facilitated a greater output per social-work hour in the District Municipality of Kitimat.

The recently innovated local research programme has led to some interesting findings, with particular reference to the difference in social problems in Region VII as compared with other regions. Aided by the Departmental Research Consultant, we have also begun some research into the effect on our services as a result of the movement of native Indians off the reserve. This cross-cultural movement results in many social breakdowns, especially in Prince Rupert, where the movement is the most accelerated in British Columbia.

In Region VII we find that the regional case load differs a great deal, on a categorical percentage basis, from the Provincial picture. In January the average case load per worker in the Province was 346. The average Provincial case load contained 220 of the categories administered by the Old-age Assistance Board and 121 of the other categories, largely Social Allowance and Child Welfare. In Region VII the figures were nearly reversed. Our average case load in January was made up of 111 Old-age Assistance Board administered cases and 201 cases in other categories. This indicates that in the region the white population has a greater percentage of young people. It also indicates the demands on a social worker are apt to require greater experience, training, and skill to fulfil.

In January we also determined that of the total Indian population in British Columbia, 23.8 per cent, nearly 8,000 persons, lived within the region. This means that nearly one-fifth of the population is of Indian status. The enfranchised group and those of mixed inheritance are not included. It is little wonder that we find ourselves working more and more closely with the Federal Department of Indian Affairs. We have this year held several joint meetings with Indian Agents in which

closer co-operation and understanding on both sides has been achieved. In March we embarked on a study of the potential cases of neglected children in the Prince Rupert and Smithers area. It is hoped that the results will aid us in protecting Native children as well as white more wisely and effectively.

It is hoped that in the coming year more resources for older citizens requiring nursing-home care will be developed in the North.

Table I.—Case Load by Major Categories in the District Administrative Offices of Region VII as at March 31st, 1959

Category	Burns Lake	Prince Rupert	Smithers	Terrace	Total
Family Service	15	38	12	36	101
Social Allowance	75	452	136	203	866
Blind Persons' Allowance	12	20	18	7	57
Old-age Assistance	36	79	13	30	158
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	76	240	53	80	449
Disabled Persons' Allowance	5	18	139	5	167
Child Welfare	59	185	84	179	507
Health and Institutional	3	10	1	7	21
Totals	281	1,042	456	547	2,326

Table II.—Numerical and Percentage Comparison of Case Load by Major Categories in Region VII for the Fiscal Years 1957/58 and 1958/59

Category	1957/58		1958/59	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Family Service	91	5.3	101	4.3
Social Allowance	415	24.2	866	37.2
Blind Persons' Allowance	50	2.9	57	2.5
Old-age Assistance	175	10.2	158	6 8
Supplementary assistance to Old Age Security	523	30.5	449	19.3
Disabled Persons' Allowance	34	2.0	167	7.2
Child Welfare	404	23.6	507	21.8
Health and Institutional	22	1.3	21	.9
Totals	1,715	100.0	2,326	100.0

In closing, it is with pleasure I thank municipal officials, school authorities, police, service clubs, members of the Bar, ministers of many religious groups, and many private citizens for their interest and help. Our increased family of foster parents deserve our special commendation. The staff have by their loyalty and devotion to the needs of the client maintained all urgently required services.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. CROSSLEY,
Regional Administrator.

PART III.—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 Department of Social Welfare 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, 1958, to March 31st, 1959.

SOCIAL ALLOWANCES SECTION

For the year under review the case-load figures show an unprecedented situation. There was, in effect, no seasonal decline and in the summer months, when a normal reduction in Social Allowance case load might have been expected, the figures rose alarmingly. The increase between April and September was over 23 per cent, or almost one-quarter. From September, 1958, to March, 1959, the case-load figures rose slightly more than 26 per cent. The annual percentage increase between April, 1958, and March, 1959, was 53 per cent approximately. There were many causes for this increase in the Social Allowance case load, but the important fact remains that they were beyond the control of the Department, which was, therefore, faced with the problem of dealing with this onslaught of applications. To the field staff, who "manned the ramparts" and dealt with the day-to-day volume of applications across their desks, this must have been the supreme challenge.

The above figures are demonstrated by the following table, which shows case load and recipients by each month of the fiscal year.

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

	Heads of Families	Dependents	Single Recipients	Total	Case Load
April, 1958	4,385	11,784	6,944	23,113	11,329
May, 1958	4,436	12,007	6,932	23,375	11,368
June, 1958	4,341	11,708	6,765	22,814	11,106
July, 1958	4,750	12,764	7,501	25,015	12,251
August, 1958	5,018	13,860	8,103	26,981	13,121
September, 1958	5,531	14,858	8,160	28,549	13,691
October, 1958	5,680	15,648	8,779	30,107	14,459
November, 1958	6,208	16,876	9,540	32,624	15,748
December, 1958	6,739	18,706	10,029	35,474	16,768
January, 1959	6,820	19,234	10,058	36,112	16,878
February, 1959	6,981	19,619	10,384	36,984	17,365
March, 1959	6,997	19,745	10,335	37,077	17,332

Of the total number of recipients of Social Allowance in the Province in March, 1959 (37,077), an increase of nearly 64 per cent over March, 1958, the totals according to regions are shown in Table II below. As at March, 1959, nine municipalities were no longer responsible for Social Allowance costs under section 639 of the *Municipal Act.* However, one municipality became responsible during the fiscal year, and where no figures are shown this indicates loss or assumption of responsibility. March, 1958, figures are shown in parentheses.

Table II.—Regional Totals of Number of Recipients of Social Allowance in March, 1959 (March, 1958, Totals in Parentheses)

	Provincial Case Loads		*Municipal Case Loads*				
Region I—							
Alberni	250	(97)	Alberni City	94	(60)		
Courtenay	804	(480)	Courtenay	83	(41)		
Duncan	289	(203)	Central Saanich	35	(12)		
Nanaimo	745	(405)	Duncan	84	(29)		
Victoria	472	(282)	Esquimalt	101	(69)		
			Nanaimo	533	(264)		
			North Cowichan	157	(89)		
			Oak Bay	35	(18)		
			Port Alberni	212	(116)		
			Saanich	271	(203)		
			Victoria	1,601	(993)		
	2,560	(1,467)		3,206	(1,894)	5,766	(3,361)
Region II—							
New Westminster	42	(46)	Burnaby	1,169	(708)		
Vancouver	300	(196)	Coquitlam	378	(277)		
Westview	122	(54)	Delta	177	(181)		
			New Westminster	832	(412)		
			North Vancouver City	300	(171)		
			North Vancouver District	148	(155)		
			Port Coquitlam	131	(94)		
			Port Moody	84	(43)		
			Powell River	169	(117)		
			Richmond	362	(351)		
			Vancouver	8,686	(4,873)		
			West Vancouver	90	(95)		
	464	(296)		12,526	(7,477)	12,990	(7,773)
Region III—							
Kamloops	1,183	(874)	Armstrong	33	(18)		
Kelowna	395	(226)	Coldstream	.....	(38)		
Penticton	702	(376)	Enderby	51	(15)		
Salmon Arm	270	(174)	Glenmore	.....	(12)		
Vernon	673	(354)	Kamloops	303	(236)		
			Kelowna	192	(109)		
			Peachland	.....	(13)		
			Penticton	399	(217)		
			Revelstoke	45	(36)		
			Salmon Arm City	.....	(29)		
			Salmon Arm District	167	(78)		
			Spallumcheen	.....	(29)		
			Summerland	94	(47)		
			Vernon	188	(125)		
	3,223	(2,004)		1,472	(1,002)	4,695	(3,006)
Region IV							
Cranbrook	458	(313)	Cranbrook	279	(131)		
Creston	443	(251)	Fernie	47	(38)		
Fernie	98	(42)	Grand Forks	66	(46)		
Grand Forks	113	(79)	Greenwood	11	(11)		
Nelson	451	(530)	Kaslo	.....	(2)		
New Denver	171	(95)	Kimberley	49	(33)		
Trail	430	(179)	Nelson	235	(135)		
			Rossland	67	(38)		
			Slocan	.....	(8)		
			Trail	331	(132)		
	2,164	(1,489)		1,085	(574)	3,249	(2,063)
Region V							
Fort St. John	225	(163)	Dawson Creek City	143	(134)		
Pouce Coupe	346	(258)	Prince George	366	(235)		
Prince George	550	(467)	Quesnel	65	(77)		
Quesnel	163	(107)	Fort St. John	46	(.....)		
Vanderhoof	146	(138)					
Williams Lake	301	(178)					
	1,731	(1,311)		620	(446)	2,351	(1,757)

Provincial Case Loads			*Municipal Case Loads*				
Region VI—							
Abbotsford	209	(119)	Chilliwack City	284	(190)		
Chilliwack	580	(284)	Chilliwhack Township	710	(364)		
Haney	48	(—)	Kent	—	(5)		
			Langley	557	(369)		
			Langley City	67	(62)		
			Maple Ridge	523	(287)		
			Matsqui	670	(302)		
			Mission District	316	(183)		
			Mission Town	93	(66)		
			Pitt Meadows	—	(49)		
			Sumas	143	(74)		
			Surrey	1,828	(1,162)		
			White Rock	223	(187)		
	837	(403)		5,414	(3,300)	6,251	(3,703)
Region VII—							
Burns Lake	167	(138)	Kitimat	565	(42)		
Prince Rupert	234	(155)	Prince Rupert	70	(287)		
Smithers	313	(229)					
Terrace	426	(121)					
	1,140	(643)		635	(329)	1,775	(972)
						37,077	(22,635)

The distribution of recipients of Social Allowance between organized and unorganized areas has remained relatively constant in that approximately 67 per cent resided in organized territory and approximately 33 per cent in unorganized territory. In so far as supervision is concerned, however, 55 per cent is supervised and administered by Provincial district offices, while 45 per cent is administered and supervised by municipal staff, of which the Province shares 50 per cent in accordance with the *Social Assistance Act*. Of this 45 per cent, the City of Vancouver supervises one-half or 23 per cent approximately, of the total municipal case load.

The following are the approximate percentages of the total number of recipients by region as at March, 1959, with March, 1958, figures for comparison.

	March, 1959 (Per Cent)	March, 1958 (Per Cent)
Region I	15.6	14.8
Region II	35.0	34.3
Region III	12.6	13.3
Region IV	8.8	9.1
Region V	6.3	7.8
Region VI	16.9	16.4
Region VII	4.8	4.3

The following table provides a comparison of Social Allowance case loads, as well as recipients, as at March 31st for the past three years:—

Table III.—Case Load and Total Number of Recipients

	March, 1957	March, 1958	March, 1959
Heads of families	3,695	4,284	6,997
Single recipients	6,029	6,857	10,335
Case load	9,724	11,141	17,332
Dependents	9,397	11,494	19,745
Total number of recipients	19,121	22,635	37,077

From this table it will be observed that from the end of March, 1958, to the end of March, 1959, the Social Allowance case load had increased by 6,191 or slightly more than 55 per cent—alternatively, approximately twenty average case

loads of 300 cases. This would be in addition to any increase in case loads in other case loads in the Departmental social welfare service.

In September, 1958, the method of sharing and equalization of Social Allowance costs was changed, but in August, 1958, the distribution of recipients of Social Allowance on the basis of legal residence in accordance with the terms of the *Residence and Responsibility Act* was as shown in the following table:—

Table IV.—Legal Residence of Social Allowance Recipients

	March, 1957	March, 1958	August, 1958
Municipal responsibilities	10,299	11,804	14,566
Provincial responsibilities	8,822	10,831	12,415
Totals	19,121	22,635	26,981

Approximately 53 per cent of the recipients were municipal responsibilities and approximately 47 per cent were responsibilities of the Province.

Effective April 1st, 1958, the basis of sharing Social Allowance costs was changed from 80 per cent/20 per cent by the Province with the municipalities to 85 per cent/15 per cent which continued until August 31st, 1958. On September 1st, 1958, the proving of legal residence in individual cases became no longer necessary and the total costs of Social Allowance were shared by the Province on a 90 per cent/10 per cent ratio with the municipalities. The municipal portion was to be and is now chargeable to municipalities on a *per capita* basis.

Following is a statement of expenditures made by the Social Welfare Branch for Social Allowances, medical services, etc., during the year April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959:—

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

	Fiscal Year 1956/57	Fiscal Year 1957/58	Fiscal Year 1958/59[2]
Cases who are the responsibility of a municipality (80 per cent paid by the Province)	$2,633,636.62	$2,781,941.03	.....
Cases who are the sole responsibility of the Province (100 per cent paid by the Province)	2,521,431.47	2,919,033.33	.....
Basic Social Allowances	.....	.....	$10,696,506.04
Repatriation, transportation within the Province, nursing- and boarding-home care (other than tuberculosis), special allowances and grants	1,505,034.90	1,640,054.12	1,831,882.18
Emergency payments, such as where a family may lose its home by fire or similar circumstances	37,163.45	47,555.23	59,008.84
Municipal and Provincial cases—			
(*a*) Tuberculosis, boarding-, nursing-, and private-home cases	327,432.07	298,322.92	348,610.21
(*b*) Transportation of tuberculosis cases	2,868.16	3,342.22	2,471.10
(*c*) Comforts allowance for tuberculosis cases	8,924.75	6,626.00	6,941.50
Hospitalization of Social Assistance cases	13,927.70	30,980.20	25,678.15
Gross Social Allowance costs as per Public Accounts	.....	.....	$12,971,098.02
Less municipal share of costs and sundry refunds	.....	.....	843,215.72
Net Social Allowances	$7,050,419.12	$7,727,855.05[1]	$12,127,882.30
Administration and operation of project and pavilion for Japanese at New Denver	$61,990.65	$36,480.08	$38,540.57
Medical services and drugs	2,240,710.53	2,422,614.32	2,814,558.80
Totals	$9,353,120.30	$10,186,949.45	$14,980,981.67

[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

[2] Effective September 1st, 1958, the basis of sharing social welfare costs with municipalities was changed from 85 per cent/15 per cent to 90 per cent/10 per cent and the municipal share billed on a proportion of population rather than by individual residence responsibility. Consequently, social allowance costs for 1958/59 have been shown in gross with the municipal share deducted in total to arrive at net costs.

For the fiscal year 1958/59 the Province received from the Federal Government *re*—

Unemployment Assistance Agreement	$5,984,364.66
Welfare assistance to immigrants	6,007.25
Welfare assistance to Hungarian refugees	3,695.40
Sundry	3,506.66
	$5,997,573.97

Sponsorship for Physical Rehabilitation

During this fiscal year the Social Welfare Branch, and responsible municipalities, where and when applicable, sponsored a total of eighty-nine trainees and patients in the G. F. Strong Rehabilitation and the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society Medical Centre for approximately 4,400 days of resident care and training.

Of these eighty-nine persons, nine suffered from some form of arthritis, and eighty were physically handicapped or orthopædically disabled. Three required speech therapy. Forty-eight were in-patients and forty-one out-patients. In addition, some of the in-patients later became out-patients.

There is an interesting age-span in this group, ranging from 12 years to 83 years of age. The age distribution is as follows:—

0 – 20 years	12
21 – 30 ,,	18
31 – 40 ,,	16
41 – 50 ,,	15
51 – 60 ,,	14
61 – 70 ,,	8
71 – 80 ,,	1
81 – 90 ,,	1
Not given	4
	89

With this age-span it is not anticipated that physical retraining or rehabilitation will also lead to economic rehabilitation. Many trainees do return to employment or receive vocational training for employment other than that in which they had previously earned their living. Others were helped to become more sufficient in self-help and care, thus eliminating the necessity of boarding- or nursing-home care. Others are trained to operate more efficiently in their own home, and in greater comfort.

Vocational Training

Again this year through the resource of the Dominion-Provincial Vocational Training Grants, administered by the Department of Education, many recipients of Social Allowance have received vocational training to enable them to achieve economic independence. The Branch participates financially in some instances and offers help with social planning to any trainees or their families requiring such help. This is an extremely valuable resource to the Branch.

Developments in Social Assistance Programme

1. Effective April 1st, 1958, the new Social Allowance rates became effective, comprising a monthly increase of $5 for a single person, $10 for two persons, and $2 for each additional dependent.

2. On April 1st, 1958, the amendment to section 6 of the regulations to the *Social Assistance Act* came into effect, which provided that municipalities with a population of 15,000, rather than 10,000 as previously, or over employ at least one social worker. Responsible municipalities, as defined in section 639 of the *Municipal Act* and with a population of less than 15,000, may either appoint their own social worker or purchase social welfare services from the Social Welfare Branch at a fee of 30 cents *per capita* rather than 15 cents *per capita* as previously required.

3. On September 1st, 1958, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, the new method of sharing and allocating social assistance costs between the Province and municipalities came into effect. The basis of sharing became 90 per cent/10 per cent with the 10 per cent municipal share allocated on a *per capita* basis. One of the important effects of this new arrangement was to eliminate the necessity of establishing and confirming residence in a local area within the Province. The necessity of establishing and confirming inter-Provincial residence, however, continued to be necessary.

4. In December, 1958, the customary Christmas bonus to recipients of social allowance was granted—namely, $5 to heads of families and $2 for single persons.

In accordance with section 13 of the regulations to the *Social Assistance Act,* thirty-four Boards of Review were established in this fiscal year.

Under section 9 of the *Residence and Responsibility Act,* one meeting of the Board of Arbitration was called.

MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES SECTION

This fiscal year was to see a development concerning Mothers' Allowances which had been considered for a long time. As has been pointed out in previous Annual Reports, the case load had been consistently dropping for many years, and the provision of a categorical form of assistance known as Mothers' Allowance had become redundant in the light of the broader coverage and implementation of the *Social Assistance Act.*

At the time of the inauguration of the new basis of sharing social welfare costs, mentioned in the Social Allowances section, it seemed also appropriate that the Mothers' Allowances case load be included. To this end, therefore, from September 1st, all current recipients of Mothers' Allowance commenced to receive their allowance from Social Allowance funds, administered through the local welfare offices, and no further applications were taken for Mothers' Allowance. This has meant no hardship whatever, as the rates for Mothers' Allowance and Social Allowance had been identical for many years, and administrative policies the same, and, what is even more important, the eligibility qualifications for Social Allowance have always been broader and less prohibitive since the passing of the *Social Assistance Act* in 1945.

Thus passed into the history of social welfare in this Province a provision which had been in the beginning rightly hailed as a most advanced piece of social legislation and which for many years had admirably fulfilled its purpose. With the advance in social welfare philosophy and progressive programmes, however, this provision had outgrown its usefulness, and its purposes integrated into other programmes.

This final report therefore covers the five-month period April 1st to August 31st, 1958, only, after which the case-load figures and costs are incorporated into the tables in the Social Allowances section.

For the final five months the case-load continued to decrease, as had been the trend for many years.

The following table illustrates this trend:—

Table I.—Comparative Statement of Case Load

As at March, 1957	284
As at March, 1958	243
As at August, 1958	232

On a monthly basis the case-load figures are as follows:—

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

Month	Number of Allowances in Pay	Number of Persons		Incapacitated Husbands
		Mothers	Children	
April, 1958	243	243	584	29
May, 1958	238	238	569	29
June, 1958	239	239	570	29
July, 1958	234	234	555	29
August, 1958	232	232	547	30

The following table illustrates how applications and reapplications were dealt with in this five-month period:—

Table III.—Statement of Applications Considered and Decisions Made

Applications pending as at April 1st, 1958	8
New applications received to August 31st, 1958	11
Reapplications received to August 31st, 1958	2
Total	21

Decisions—	
Grants	8
Refusals	2
Withdrawn	11
	21
Applications pending as at August 31st, 1958	0
Total	21

Reasons for refusals—	
Property in excess	1
Separation not granted by court	1
Total	2

Reasons for applications pending—
No applications pending.

Cancellations during the same period totalled nineteen, and for the reasons indicated in the following table:—

Table IV.—Reasons for Cancellation of the Allowances

Social Allowance preferable form of assistance	1
Mother earning in excess	7
Mother ineligible under section 7 of the *Mothers' Allowances Act*	4
Husband released from Penitentiary	1
Only child returned to mother's care	1
Only child under 18 left school	2
Older children maintaining	2
Withdrawn	1
Total	19

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
Cases	4	3	1	3	2	1	—	2	1	1	—	1

Total cases, 19. Average length of time on allowance, 4.63 years.

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

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

Status of Mother in Accordance with Eligibility Qualifications Set by the Act	Number of Children							Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Widows	44	48	37	14	3	3	2	151
Penitentiary	2	4	2	2	—	—	—	10
Husband in mental hospital	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	3
Incapacitated husbands home	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	6
Incapacitated husbands away	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	7
Incapacitated husbands O.A.S., O.A.A., B.P., and D.P.A.	5	5	3	2	1	1	—	17
Judicial separation	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Divorced	4	6	6	—	—	—	—	16
Deserted	4	11	2	2	—	—	—	19
Foster-mother	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	63	80	54	23	5	4	3	232

From the above table the following figures are derived:—

Table VI.—Number of Individuals for Whom Allowance Granted

Mothers	232
Husbands	6[1]
Children	547
Total	785

[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-seven 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 was determined by the *Mothers' Allowances Act* and had remained unchanged since the Act was proclaimed in 1920. It was necessary, therefore, to pay a supplementary allowance from the Social Allowance funds in order that the recipients of Mothers' Allowances would receive a monthly amount equivalent to the allowance payable to recipients of Social Allowance. This supplementary allowance, as well as the Mothers' Allowance, was a total charge on the Province.

Because of the two sources of payment for Mothers' Allowance recipients it is necessary to present two financial statements in order to report total costs.

Table VII.—Mothers' Allowances Financial Statement for the Five Months April 1st, 1958, to August 31st, 1958

Amount of allowance paid as follows:—

Month	Amount of Allowance	
April, 1958	$11,342.47	
May, 1958	10,829.47	
June, 1958	11,125.72	
July, 1958	10,950.97	
August, 1958	9,755.82	
		$54,004.45

Reconciliation with Ledger Account in Controlling and Audit Branch: Amount advanced by Minister of Finance $54,004.45

The books and records of the Director of Welfare respecting Mothers' Allowances for five months' period ending August 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' Allowances (Vote 188) from April 1st, 1958, to August 31st, 1958.

Amount of allowances paid as follows:—

Month	Amount of Allowance	
April, 1958	$14,214.80	
May, 1958	13,618.30	
June, 1958	13,895.25	
July, 1958	13,964.85	
August, 1958	12,461.65	
		$68,154.85

Reconciliation with Ledger Account in Controlling and Audit Branch: Amount advanced by Minister of Finance $68,154.85

The books and records of the Director of Welfare respecting Supplementary Social Allowances paid to recipients of Mothers' Allowances for five months' period ending August 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
1956/57	$321,342.76	1,398,464	.23
1957/58	282,383.05	1,487,000	.19
April/58–August/58	122,159.30	1,544,000	.08

General Comments

No amendments were made to the *Mothers' Allowances Act* or regulations to the Act during the year under review. On September 1st, 1958, it became non-operative as its provisions are no longer used nor required.

At the time of the transfer to the Social Allowance case load the predominance of cases living in organized territory was still evident, as seen by the following table:—

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

Total applications and reapplications received		13
Applicants residing in organized territory	13	
Applicants having legal residence in organized territory	12	
Total grants made from April 1st, 1958, to August 31st, 1958		8
Recipients residing in organized territory	7	
Recipients having legal residence in organized territory	8	
Allowances in pay as at August 31st, 1958		232
Recipients having legal residence in unorganized territory	17	
Recipients having legal residence in organized territory	215	

Conclusions

As this final annual report on the administration of the *Mothers' Allowances Act* concludes, it is perhaps fitting that some thought should be directed to all those mothers and children who were helped in some measure by the allowance which they required to help them face one of the most potentially disastrous hazards of life—namely, the loss by death, incapacitation, or absence from other causes of the support and strength of the husband, father, and breadwinner.

The withdrawal of the provision of Mothers' Allowance was undertaken only after long, careful consideration of what this might mean to the welfare of families who were already receiving and might require such assistance in the future. It was, therefore, only in true sincerity and belief that their needs would be served equally as well and in many instances better that the administrative decision was made to eliminate a programme which had been in existence for nearly 40 years and pre-dated many of our current social-assistance programmes.

The allowance has never been a beneficent one, but special tribute should be paid to all those mothers who have used it wisely and well to maintain a happy and satisfactory home-life for their children, and thus fulfilled to the best of their ability the primary purpose of this legislation.

FAMILY SERVICE SECTION

" Family Service," as the term implies, is a casework service to families which the Branch is required to give in accordance with the terms and definitions of the *Social Assistance Act*.

For administrative purposes the term is also used in a categorical sense to cover all those varied services given to individuals and families.

It is the basic service of all others, because it is founded on a belief in the importance of the family unit in society and on the primary goal of all social work to preserve and strengthen family life. As has been explained previously its purpose is to try to save marriages threatening to dissolve, to help when separation seems inevitable, to encourage and help parents whose conduct or way of life might otherwise lead to loss of guardianship of their children, to work with the troubled teenager or the older person whose sense of worth and security is threatened.

Financial need is not always the criterion of eligibility or need for Family Service and counselling. But whether or not financial need exists, service to the family and its children offers us our greatest challenge and scope for preventive and rehabilitative work. In addition to the special skill and knowledge of the social worker the most important requirement is precious time for thoughtful, consistent, and helpful service. Without this latter no amount of skill or knowledge can compensate for its lack. Under inordinate pressure, however, this seems inevitably to be the area of service which first suffers. The financial and human costs are not immediately discernible, but they are, nevertheless, ever present and cumulative and compounded.

The following table gives the monthly Family Service case load and activity in that case load for the fiscal year under review:—

Table I.—Total of Family Service Cases, April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959

	Total at Beginning of Month	Opened	Closed	Total at End of Month	Last Year
1958					
April	1,296	145	154	1,287	1,454
May	1,287	173	186	1,274	1,484
June	1,274	145	151	1,268	1,448
July	1,268	205	221	1,252	1,462
August	1,252	174	168	1,258	1,393
September	1,258	191	201	1,248	1,360
October	1,248	208	151	1,305	1,390
November	1,305	158	200	1,263	1,397
December	1,263	120	120	1,263	1,400
1959					
January	1,263	194	189	1,268	1,365
February	1,268	208	161	1,315	1,325
March	1,315	163	161	1,317	1,296

The significant observation in these figures is that this case load declined in the previous fiscal year and has risen only slightly in the fiscal year under review, while other case loads have increased to such an outstanding degree. This seems to be an unnatural trend which requires further study from many aspects. It is hoped that this can be done in the ensuing year.

Other Services

Family Allowances

The Family 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 of, or eligibility for, Family Allowances.

Table II.—Requests Received from Family Allowances Division, April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959

Received during the fiscal year April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959, by months—	
April, 1958	7
May, 1958	17
June, 1958	2
July, 1958	8
August, 1958	11
September, 1958	5
October, 1958	10
November, 1958	6
December, 1958	4
January, 1959	11
February, 1959	5
March, 1959	9
Total requests received	95

These requests for reports were directed as follows:—

Table III.—Referrals to District Offices and Other Agencies

Referrals pending as at April 1st, 1958 (amended figure)		14
Requests forwarded during fiscal year April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959, by regions—		
Region I[1]	34	
Region II[1]	24	
Region III	7	
Region IV	5	
Region V	11	
Region VI	11	
Region VII	3	
	—	95
Total number of requests referred		109

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

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

Region I	37
Region II	22
Region III	6
Region IV	4
Region V	11
Region VI	9
Region VII	3
Total	92
Total number of requests referred	109
Referrals pending as at April 1st, 1959	17

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, 1958, to March 31st, 1959

Pending as at April 1st, 1958 (amended figure)		3
Received during fiscal year April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959, by months—		
April, 1958	1	
May, 1958	4	
June, 1958	2	
July, 1958	2	
August, 1958	1	
September, 1958	1	
November, 1958	1	
December, 1958	1	
	—	13
Total case load		16

Table VI.—Requests Forwarded during Fiscal Year April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959, by Regions

Region II	3
Region III	3
Region V	4
Region VI	3
Total number of requests	13
Pending as at April 1st, 1958 (amended figure)	3
Total	16

Table VII.—Reports Completed by Regions

Region II	3
Region III	3
Region V	6
Region VI	3
Total reports completed	15
Total number of requests	16
Requests pending as at April 1st, 1959	1

The Family Division wishes to express sincere appreciation to the clerical staff, social workers, district supervisors, and Regional Administrators for their help and co-operation and gratitude for their loyalty and service, without which the purposes and responsibilities of the Division and Branch could not be fulfilled.

This appreciation also goes to municipal welfare departments, other departments of Government, and voluntary agencies for their co-operation and advice whenever sought.

Respectfully submitted.

(Miss) MARIE RIDDELL,
Assistant Director of Social Welfare.

CHILD WELFARE DIVISION

Three thousand three hundred and thirty-seven children were in the care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare during the fiscal year and 2,586 remain as at March 31st, 1959. Of these, 2,243 are in foster homes throughout the Province, 193 are in care of a Children's Aid Society for special reasons, 87 have moved with relatives or foster-parents to another Province, 42 are in correctional institutions, and 21 are in Woodlands School, Provincial Mental Hospital, or Crease Clinic. In addition, the three Children's Aid Societies have in care 2,229 children.

Table I.—Cost of Maintaining Children

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

Gross cost of maintenance of children in Child Welfare Division foster homes	$1,025,368.63
Gross cost to Provincial Government of maintenance of children with Provincial residence in care of Children's Aid Societies. (This also includes children with municipal residence, effective September 1st, 1958.)[1]	1,122,905.13
Gross cost to Provincial Government of maintenance of children with municipal residence in care of Children's Aid Societies (April 1st to August 31st, 1958)[1]	251,972.37
Gross cost of transportation of children in care of Superintendent	13,235.04
Gross cost of hospitalization of new-born infants being permanently planned for by Superintendent	30,315.00
Grants to sundry homes	1,100.00
Gross expenditure	$2,444,896.17
Less collections and refunds	377,713.14
Net cost to Provincial Government as per Public Accounts	$2,067,183.03

[1] Effective September 1st, 1958, the direct billing of municipalities by the Children's Aid Societies was discontinued. The Provincial Government now reimburses the Children's Aid Societies in full and bills the municipalities accordingly.

Table II.—Legal Status and Whereabouts of Children in the Care of the Superintendent as at March 31st, 1959

	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	205	10	5	1	21	22	264
Region II	264	13	20	3	17	39	356
Region III	350	8	22	2	24	59	465
Region IV	151	7	11	6	10	18	203
Region V	216	5	7	5	39	15	287
Region VI	297	16	26	9	28	71	447
Region VII	158	.....	4	3	17	19	201
Totals	1,641	59	95	29	156	243	2,223
Placed with a C.A.S. for special reasons—							
C.A.S., Vancouver	62	2	.....	3	2	20	89
C.C.A.S., Vancouver	25	3	.....	5	.....	13	46
F.C.S., Victoria	33	2	.....	3	7	13	58
Totals	120	7	.....	11	9	46	193
In institutions—							
B.I.S. and G.I.S.	17	5	.....	1	.....	.....	23
Oakalla	12	5	.....	1	.....	1	19
Woodlands	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Essondale	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Crease Clinic	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Totals	49	10	.....	2	1	1	63
Out of Province with foster-parents	48	2	35	.....	.....	2	87
On active service or otherwise independent	8	1	9	1	1	.....	20
Grand totals	1,866	79	139	43	167	292	2,586

STRENGTHENED PREVENTIVE SERVICES NEEDED

The Superintendent of Child Welfare and the three Children's Aid Societies begin the new fiscal year with responsibility for 4,815 children—343 more than have ever been in agency care in this Province.

For about 10 per cent of these 4,815 children, adoption placement with its promised benefits will be achieved fairly readily. About 20 per cent will return to their own parents in the course of the next year and a similar number will reach the age of 21 years or be married or legally adopted, at which time the societies' and Superintendent of Child Welfare's guardianship will terminate.

Table III.—Age and Legal Status of Children in the Care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare as at March 31st, 1959

	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	14	51	165	268	554	187	431	196	1,866
Non-wards	15	16	29	29	86	34	64	19	292
Before Court	22	13	25	37	39	7	21	3	167
Juvenile Delinquents Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	10	48	19	79
Wards and non-wards of C.A.S. in care of S.C.W.	4	3	13	13	31	8	29	38	139
Wards of other Provinces	.....	.....	1	4	7	7	17	7	43
Totals	55	83	233	351	719	253	610	282	2,586

ADOPTION—A CHILD WELFARE SERVICE

As is seen from Table III above, the majority of children in the care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare again this year are between the ages of 6 to 14

years. Many are sisters and brothers. Others have special needs as a result of physical handicap, race, colour, or creed and all have known upset and hurt far beyond the due of a child. Some of the national publicity about adoption and child-caring agencies of late fails to take these and other factors into account when it is claimed that through agency " red-tape " many children are being deprived of adopted parents. Adoption, to be successful, must ensure the continuing well-being of a child, and experience gained from similar publicity in the past points to the fact that all persons responding to such campaigns for adoption homes are not motivated solely by a love of children, nor are they all capable of understanding how early deprivation may seriously limit a child's capacity to form a relationship with new parents and develop satisfactorily in a family.

Knowing the needs of each child and selecting the home most capable of meeting these is a child-welfare service, and any over-simplification through wrongly focussed publicity or other means as to what is involved in the process of finding the right home for each child jeopardizes the future of children, their parents, and those who earnestly want to adopt.

Table IV.—Number and Age of Children Placed for Adoption, April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959

Region	Under 1 Month	1–2 Months	3–5 Months	6–11 Months	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	6 Years	7 Years	8 Years	9 Years	10 Years	11 Years	12 Years	13 Years	15 Years	16 Years	19 Years	Total
I	33	17	5	9	4	2	2	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77
II	90	19	14	10	7	5	1	5	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	156
III	33	11	2	3	4	1	1	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62
IV	23	8	2	8	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49
V	14	6	2	5	4	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
VI	30	10	10	8	4	2	3	3	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	78
VII	10	5	3	1	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	32
Yukon		2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Totals	233	78	39	44	32	13	10	15	4	4	6	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	493

Child Welfare Division, total adoption placements	493
C.A.S., total adoption placements	186
C.C.A.S., total adoption placements	63
F.C.S., total adoption placements	94
Total adoption placements	836

Eight hundred and thirty-six children planned for through adoption—493 by the Department of Social Welfare and 343 by the three Children's Aid Societies—is the highest number of placements ever achieved in this Province in one year.

The year is also memorable for the Department of Social Welfare, in particular, because of the number of older children, children of mixed racial origin or with a physical handicap, and children of family groups for whom adoption homes were found.

MANY OLDER CHILDREN ADOPTED

Three hundred and ninety-four of the children placed by Department of Social Welfare were under the age of 12 months, but 99 ranged in age from 1 to 19 years. Many of the latter had been in foster-home care for some time, and the answer to the question " Why were they not adopted sooner? " is that they were not emotionally and (or) legally ready for adoption. The child who has either good or bad memories of his parents needs help before he can think in terms of another family to call his own. Parents who have failed to carry out their parental duties toward

their children must still be given help and opportunity to alter their pattern of behaviour or, alternatively, to relinquish their child by consent to adoption. When neither course proves possible, the Court must be satisfied by evidence supplied by the social worker that waiving the parental consent is in the child's best interests. Not until the parents' consent or conclusive grounds for waiving it are before the Court can the adoption order, terminating for all time the parent's right to his child and the child's right to his parent, be granted.

SISTERS AND BROTHERS ADOPTED

Eight sets of twins, ranging in age from 2 weeks to 4½ years, and five family groups with a total of twelve children were among those placed for adoption. In the latter was a family of three—two boys and a girl aged 4, 3, and 2 years. They were chronologically young but old in experiences; and they needed a great deal of help from their social worker before they were ready for adoption placement, even though the family chosen had already legally adopted their two older half-sister and brother.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTED

Fifty-seven of the children placed had many out-of-the-ordinary needs. Fifteen had health problems, such as heart conditions, asthma, cleft palate and harelip, an eye condition, and one suffered from celiac disease. All have responded to medical care, and the majority were or will be with their adopted parents throughout the entire period of required treatment.

CHILDREN OF MIXED RACIAL ORIGIN ADOPTED

The child with a physical handicap is a child with special needs, but it is still easier to find families capable of meeting these than it is to find them for another child with equally special needs—the child of mixed racial heritage.

In Regions V and VII alone, 60 per cent of the almost 500 children in foster-home care are of Native Indian extraction, and yet but twenty-one of this origin were placed for adoption this year. This is more than was accomplished in years preceding, but resources for these children are still too few and the persistent shortage of Roman Catholic adoption homes places an additional limitation on workers' ability to plan for the part-Indian child through adoption.

Eight children of part Chinese or Japanese background were placed, and four of them with adopting parents of full Chinese or Japanese parentage. This achievement is worthy of note, because thus far the traditions and culture of the Chinese and Japanese communities have been bars to adoption of the child of Occidental-Oriental background. The East Indian community, too, is resistant to the adoption of the part East Indian child, and this year three children of this heritage were placed in homes of different background. This was true also for three part-Negroid children, a Syrian child, and a child of part Porto Rican parentage.

Thus far, most persons adopting children of mixed racial origin in British Columbia are not of the same race and culture. As a result of these differences there may be some problems for the children in their adoption homes and communities beyond those known to the average child and his family. Problems arising out of race or colour, however, are problems which, without a family of one's own, could well prove insurmountable to a growing boy or girl. Adoption will not elimi-

nate them, but the support and understanding of a mother, father, and perhaps sisters and brothers by adoption can make facing them and coping with them wholly possible. There are risks in these placements for both the child and his adopted family, but until such time as adults of all races and culture are ready to make their contribution to the safety and well-being of children—regardless of race, colour, and creed—the risks are calculated and minimum compared with the hazards the child of mixed racial origin still faces in our society without the bulwark of a stable family life.

ADOPTION—A BASIC PREVENTIVE SERVICE

Adoption, when it is supported financially and morally by all communities providing for the child without a family of his own " The something, you somehow haven't to deserve," as Robert Frost described a home, is one of the most practical preventive measures against neglect, broken homes, delinquency, and other social ills which can be undertaken by a Province. Proof of this is not hard to find. All correctional institutions, mental hospitals, and the rolls of Courts and social agencies everywhere, know many persons who never had the consistent and wise guidance of a mother and father throughout their growing years. What, for instance, might the future have held for the 836 boys and girls placed with adopted parents this year if this plan had not been made for them? Six hundred and sixty-eight had been born to unwed mothers. Fifty-nine to married women separated from their husbands, who were not the child's father, and 109 were children of married couples unwilling or unable to accept their parental responsibilities.

Much of the old social and legal prejudice against the out-of-wedlock child has disappeared, but not all, and it is still a difficult road, socially and economically, for the unwed mother. Boarding-home or day care are available to her for her baby, but if she must work, others in fact rear him. Replacements of the child are usually frequent, and he too often grows up confused as to whom he belongs to and with little of the all-important feeling of well-being and self-worth a loving and proud mother and father convey to their child in their every action toward him.

The child born of an extra-marital union has almost a less place in his parents' lives than the child born to the unwed mother. His very existence is an added complication to the mother's hopes with respect to reconciliation with her husband or divorce, and the child, sensing her guilt and fear, may learn early to distrust himself and the world about him.

A high number of the 109 children born to married parents and relinquished for adoption had first been removed by Court order from their care because of neglect. Some may bear emotional scars from these experiences all their lives, but, freed by adoption from their parents' irresponsible and sometimes cruel actions and attitudes, they have now opportunity to " put down roots " and grow to maximum potential.

Eight hundred and thirty-six children placed with adopted families in one year is not a large number in the total population of the Province. However, this many or more placed each year for the next ten years becomes an important figure, and particularly so when thought of as this many boys and girls entering adulthood with opportunities through adoption to become valuable citizens who otherwise without a stable family to guide them would have had precarious upbringings and equally precarious adult lives.

Table V.—Referrals to Child Welfare Division of Children Needing Adopted Parents

Child Referred By	Number
Vancouver C.A.S.	145
Catholic C.A.S.	18
F.C.S. (Victoria)	3
S.W.D. Districts	327
Total	493[1]

[1] Comprised of 253 boys and 240 girls.

REGISTRY OF CHILDREN TO BE ESTABLISHED

For several years the Children's Aid Societies, district offices, and Child Welfare Division have endeavoured to share the resources of the entire Province and, on occasion, those of other Provinces and the Yukon for children needing adopted parents. The results have been excellent. As shown in Table V, 166 children were referred this year to Child Welfare Division by a Children's Aid Society and placed in an adoption home in one of the Department of Social Welfare's regions. To extend this plan and further ensure that every child in care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare who should be placed for adoption has parents found for him, a central registry will be established next year in the adoption placement section of the Division. The registry will be of value to administration in assessing staff needs of field and Division and in assigning case loads, and it should prove an asset in the utilization of all resources for each child registered. Some, because of their special needs, may remain on the registry a long time, but through it they will be considered constantly as newly approved adoption homes throughout the Province are also registered.

MOST ADOPTED CHILDREN PLACED BY A SOCIAL AGENCY

It is a satisfaction again this year to report a remarkably low number of children adopted who had been placed by unauthorized persons.

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

	Agency	Blood Relative	Unauthorized Person	Total
Region I	73	37	7	117
Region II	144	85	26	255
Region III	78	19	4	101
Region IV	47	13	3	63
Region V	36	16	8	60
Region VI	60	61	9	130
Region VII	21	15	6	42
Totals	459	246	63	768
Vancouver Children's Aid Society	205	92	32	329
Catholic Children's Aid Society	55	12	3	70
Victoria Children's Aid Society	85	49	8	142
Totals	345	153	43	541
Child placed in Province but order granted elsewhere	1	.....	.....	1
Total adoptions for year	805	399	106	1,310

In addition to the 1,310 adoptions completed this year, 909 legal notices of intention to adopt were received, 88 applications to Court were processed but withdrawn for various reasons by the petitioners, and 171 other adoption inquiries as interprovincial and international adoption matters were handled by Divisional staff. Table VII below shows the steady rise in Court hearings throughout the past five years.

Table VII.—Adoptions Completed by Court Order

Year	Number Completed
1958/59	1,309
1957/58	1,168
1956/57	1,177
1955/56	1,152
1954/55	1,102

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND RELATED SERVICES

With the decentralization of protective authority and services to the field in April, 1958, the Division was relieved of supervisory responsibility on the individual case basis. However, decentralization of authority and services necessitated the establishment of certain controls in the Division by which standards of service could be appraised and through which the field could seek and obtain the help of the Divisional staff. Decentralization also requires that a consultative service be available to the field through both correspondence and personal contact, and the final responsibility of seeing that the legal requirements of the *Protection of Children Act* are being met must still rest with the Division. Decentralization, therefore, did not relieve the Division of work but rather changed the nature of the work carried by broadening its purpose.

The Division is appreciative of the interest and assistance extended to the Division of the Attorney-General's Department in the many problem cases which arose out of the administration of the *Protection of Children Act.*

The field, and rightly so, is also looking more and more to the Division for help in planning for children who require special placement resources. In an effort to enable the field to make full use of the limited resources available in British Columbia, Divisional staff this year visited most of the institutions and child-caring agencies in the Province and will be in a better position to act as liaison between the field and these agencies.

Interdepartmental negotiations have made it possible to have a much higher number of children admitted to Woodlands School, Crease Clinic, and Provincial Mental Hospital, and this has eased a heavy burden from the foster-home programme for the field.

Services related to protection of children, as custody, legitimation, immigration, repatriation, and " sundry cases " which, in the main, consist of interprovincial and international problems relating to families and children, have been much in demand this year. The total handled has been about three times as many as in any year preceding.

Table VIII.—Services Related to Child Protection

	Carried Over	New	Total	Incomplete as at March 31, 1959
Custody	19	69	88	25
Immigration	80	65	145	21
Legitimation	2	10	12	3
Repatriation	13	83	96	9
Sundry	105	294	399	66
Totals	219	521	740	124

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS ACT

A total of $76,024.57 was received and disbursed under this Act this year, $16,426.82 more than last year. Seventy-two new agreements, twenty-seven new affiliation orders, and ten settlements were obtained.

SLIGHT DECREASE IN THE OUT-OF-WEDLOCK BIRTHS

For the first time in a number of years the Division of Vital Statistics reports a decrease in the number of births out of wedlock registered, although there were sixty-seven more than last year in the non-Indian group.

Table IX.—Children Born Out of Wedlock

Year	Total		Under 15		15–19		20–24		25–29		30–39		40 and Over		Total
	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	Indian	Non-Indian	
1956/57	481	1,695	4	7	121	477	149	457	99	337	96	374	12	43	2,176
1957/58	535	1,975	3	16	134	584	174	553	125	376	88	400	11	46	2,510
1958/59	442	2,042	4	17	111	608	144	586	96	371	72	405	15	55	2,484

Judging from the number of unwed mothers who sought help for themselves and child from a Children's Aid Society or the Department of Social Welfare, and the comparatively small number who placed their baby for adoption through channels other than an authorized agency this year, it would appear that less than one-third of the total 2,484 children born out of wedlock remained with their parent or parents or were placed by them in the home of a blood relative. It is suspected that a fairly high percentage of this group of children were born to persons living together as man and wife but not legally married to each other. Each year a number of such births are legitimated when marriage to each other becomes possible. In any event, the problems created by the status of these children are in many ways different to those encountered by the child and his unwed mother alone.

Cultural differences within certain racial groups has bearing upon the incidence of births out of wedlock as has the integration of other races into white communities. Whatever the causes, British Columbia's rate of births out of wedlock continues high compared to the national figure, and the number of unwed mothers each year who are under the age of 15 years remains cause for deep concern.

Table X.—Births Out of Wedlock for Mothers 12 to 16 Years of Age, 1948 to Fiscal Year 1958/59

Year	12 Years		13 Years		14 Years		15 Years		Total Indian	Total N/Ind.
	Ind.	N/Ind.	Ind.	N/Ind.	Ind.	N/Ind.	Ind.	N/Ind.		
1948	1	----	1	----	----	3	2	6	4	9
1949	----	----	----	1	2	5	6	9	8	15
1950	----	----	----	2	3	2	1	12	4	16
1951	----	1	----	2	2	2	9	18	11	23
1952	----	----	1	1	4	4	6	21	11	26
1953	----	----	----	3	4	6	6	16	10	25
1954	----	1	2	----	3	5	11	20	16	26
1955	----	----	1	----	1	11	6	28	8	39
1956	----	----	2	1	2	11	11	34	15	46
1957	----	----	2	----	----	13	7	41	9	54
Totals	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	96	279

1958/59 (under the age of 15 years)[1] ..... Indian 4, Non-Indian 17

[1] Complete statistics from Division of Vital Statistics not yet available.

The majority, if not all, of the non-Indian and many of the Indian adolescent girls represented in Table X were brought to the attention of a Children's Aid Society or the Department of Social Welfare. In some instances the police preferred charges against the adults involved, but most of these young persons were found to have lacked parental supervision and guidance and with few exceptions their home-life was wanting stability and purpose.

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN UNDER THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN ACT

There are but eight Fairbridge boys under the age of 21 years remaining in care as at March 31st, 1959, and most of them are self-supporting or soon will be. Of the thirty-six other immigrant children in care during the year, twenty-nine remain—twenty-eight Hungarian and one Danish. Of the eight discharged during the year, seven reached their majority or married and one returned to Europe at his own insistence. The Hungarian boys and girls who came to British Columbia are not finding their niche readily, and years of living " by their wits " in revolt-torn Hungary has left many unprepared for study or industrious pursuits.

HEALTH OF CHILDREN

Despite the large number of children in care during the year, the general health of the group was good although two deaths occurred. A 3-month-old baby contracted pneumonia and failed to respond to medical treatment and a year-and-a-half-old child awaiting admission to Woodlands School for retarded children died when complications developed out of his congenital physical condition.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

A total of $65,867.24 was received from the Family Allowances Division this year on behalf of 1,695 children in care. Disbursements were as follows:—

Table XI.—Family Allowance Disbursements

Balance on hand as at January 1st, 1958		$51,909.49
Receipts for the period January 1st, 1958, to December 31st 1958		65,867.24
Expenditures for the above period		57,170.12
Parents—		
Foster-mothers	$32,543.00	
Adopting mothers	4,138.43	
Natural parents	5,262.27	
Transferred to Children's Aid Societies	2,419.09	
Refunds to Family Allowance Board	300.50	
Recreational equipment, etc.	8,303.39	
Paid to children on discharge	1,766.09	
Educational	367.15	
Gifts	170.03	
Special clothing	629.58	
Miscellaneous	1,270.59	
	$57,170.12	
Balance on hand as at December 31st, 1958		60,606.61

Number of children involved in the accumulated balances, 1,695.

The Child Welfare League of America held its first conference in Canada in Vancouver this year, and the Divisional staff authorized to attend enjoyed and benefitted from the experience.

In conclusion, my sincere thanks to the clerical and social work staffs throughout the Department. They have met the unprecedented pressures in child welfare this year admirably and well. I am appreciative, too, of the help and support received from the three Children's Aid Societies and the six organizations in British Columbia which offer institutional care to children. Their joint participation and regular attendance at the meetings of the Committee on Child Care, formed at the request of the Chairman of the Board of the *Welfare Licensing Act,* has been particularly valuable. The anticipated increase next year in foster-home rates will be tangible expression of the Department's recognition of the dedicated service given by foster-parents throughout this Province. Theirs is a special and unique contribution to the child without which no child-welfare programme could exist.

Respectfully submitted.

(MISS) RUBY MCKAY,
Superintendent of Child Welfare.

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

GENERAL

The Old-age Assistance Board is a division of the Department of Social Welfare. The Board consists of three members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor. These same three members also comprise the Blind Persons' Allowances Board and the Disabled Persons' Allowances Board. The Boards are charged with the administration of the respective Federal and Provincial Acts and regulations, including the consideration of applications and the payment of assistance. The Boards also consider applications for Supplementary Assistance and Health Services and grant these additional Provincial benefits where applicable.

During the fiscal year under review Mr. Robert Talbot resigned his position as a member of the Board on his appointment as Director of Social Welfare of the Province of Saskatchewan, and Mr. Herbert E. Blanchard was appointed to replace him. Mr. Talbot will long be remembered by the members and staff of the Old-age Assistance Board for his sincere and friendly interest in the administration.

The work has become more stabilized, although a steady increase in the actual number of persons receiving assistance has provided increased activity in the processing and the adjusting of cases.

The effects of major internal administrative changes in the early part of the year were felt throughout the year. A composite application form was devised to facilitate the taking of applications. The staff was reorganized, but not increased in number, and special emphasis was placed upon the elimination of delays in the processing of applications. These two changes, together with others of minor importance, were reflected in the increased number of cases granted during the year in all categories.

With the increased number receiving assistance and the increased basic rates payable resulting from the legislative enactments of the previous year, the amounts expended in all categories have reached an all-time high. The cost of the Old-age Assistance programme, including supplementary assistance, was up over $600,000 to a total of nearly $6,000,000 in this Province alone. Payments to the Blind increased about $50,000 to a total of close to $450,000, while payments to the Disabled advanced $350,000 to an all-time high of over $1,325,000. The total amounts include the supplementary assistance payments by the Province to recipients of assistance or allowance.

Supplementary assistance payments to recipients of Old Age Security pension alone have not increased appreciably over the $6,000,000 of the past two years.

To-day the medical services available to recipients and their dependents in the Province, provided by the doctors and the Government, who share the cost of these services, is meeting with wide approval. Housing for elderly persons in the urban areas is the big problem and will undoubtedly be for some years to come.

GRAPHIC PRESENTATIONS COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1952, TO MARCH 31ST, 1959

Two graphic presentations on the following pages cover the various aspects of the administration in this Province of Old-age Assistance since January 1st, 1952, when the *Old-age Assisance Act* became effective.

The first, a line graph, shows the relationship between the total cost and the number of applications received and granted. Detailed explanations have been given in previous years and no significant changes for the current fiscal year are

revealed. The second, a bar graph, reveals the relationships among the number of cases on the payroll, the number of applications received, the number granted, and the number rejected as of March 31st of each fiscal year.

The bar graph brings to light different relationships from that given in the line graph:—

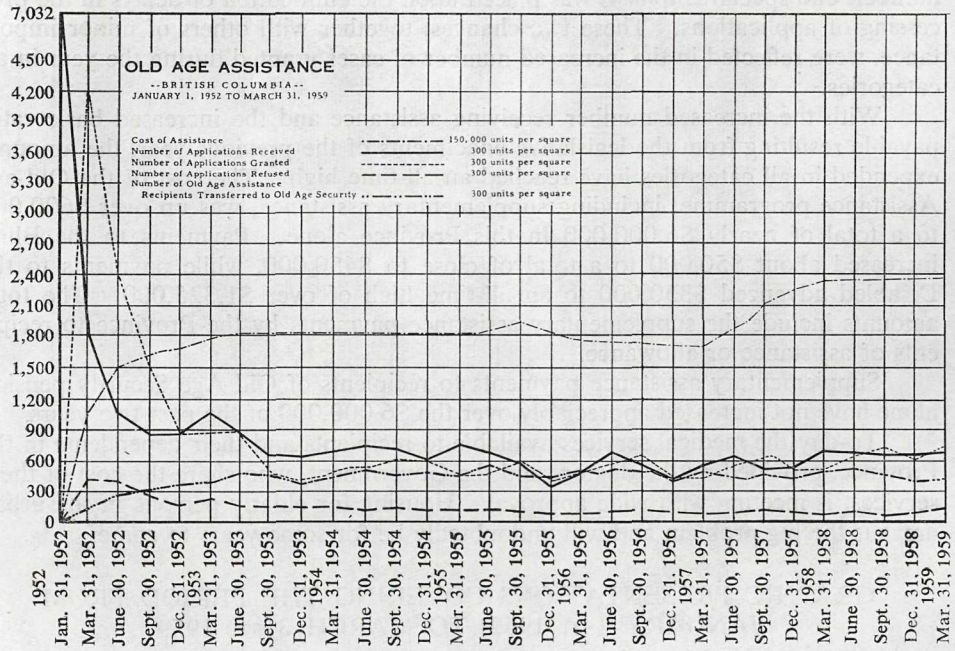
1. In the fiscal year 1953, the number of cases granted exceeds the number of applications received. This unusual situation is caused by a carry-over into the new fiscal year of a large number of applications received in 1951 and in the early part of 1952, when the Act first came into force, providing for assistance to all eligible persons between 65 and 69 years of age.

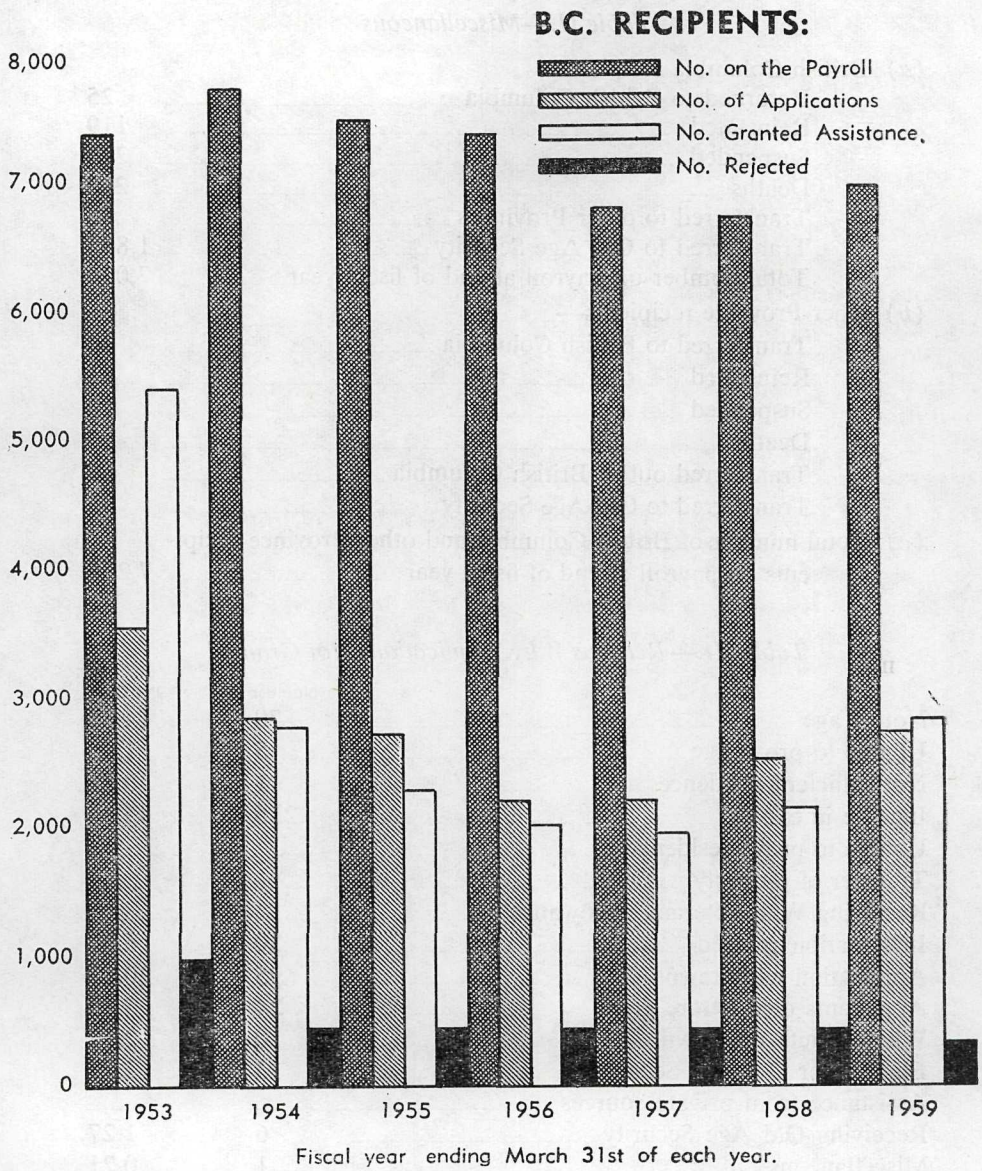
2. The bar graph also clearly reveals the constant decrease of cases in receipt of Old-age Assistance from 1954 to 1957. This is due to the fact that all cases that were initially granted in 1952 were transferred to Old Age Security by 1957. This also marks the end of the first five-year cycle.

3. The second five-year cycle, commencing with 1957, shows a steady increase in persons applying for Old-age Assistance, reflecting economic conditions generally.

4. The percentage of the number of the cases rejected to the number of applications received is consistent and falls between 20 per cent and 25 per cent for each fiscal year.

The trend indicated by both the line and the bar graphs is a steady increase in the total case load. This increase in numbers of elderly people may focus attention on the need for housing and many additional ancillary services to the aged.





STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1959

OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	2,687
Applications granted	2,702[1]
Applications not granted (refused, withdrawn, etc.)	471

[1] Includes some left over from previous year.

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*) British Columbia recipients—	
Returned to British Columbia	25
Reinstated	119
Suspended	223
Deaths	293
Transferred to other Provinces	58
Transferred to Old Age Security	1,885
Total number on payroll at end of fiscal year	7,096
(*b*) Oher-Province recipients—	
Transferred to British Columbia	84
Reinstated	41
Suspended	10
Deaths	9
Transferred out of British Columbia	69
Transferred to Old Age Security	55
(*c*) Total number of British Columbia and other-Province recipients on payroll at end of fiscal year	7,276

Table III.—Reasons Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not of age	70	14.86
Unable to prove age	5	1.06
Not sufficient residence	1	0.21
Income in excess	216	45.86
Unable to prove residence	------	------
Transfer of property	------	------
Receiving War Veterans' Allowance	------	------
Information refused	30	6.37
Application withdrawn	95	20.17
Applicants died before grant	24	5.10
Whereabouts unknown	10	2.12
Eligible for Old Age Security	13	2.77
Assistance from private sources	------	------
Receiving Old Age Security	6	1.27
Miscellaneous	1	0.21
Totals	471	100.00

Table IV.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	1,272	47.08
Female	1,430	52.92
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table V.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	1,130	41.82
Single	363	13.43
Widows	604	22.35
Widowers	151	5.59
Separated	396	14.66
Divorced	58	2.15
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table VI.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	258	9.55
Other parts of Canada	575	21.28
British Isles	282	10.43
Other parts of British Commonwealth	883	32.68
United States of America	692	25.61
Other foreign countries	12	0.45
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table VII.—Ages at Granting of Assistance

	Number	Per Cent
Age 65	1,221	45.19
Age 66	482	17.84
Age 67	357	13.21
Age 68	348	12.88
Age 69	294	10.88
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Age 65	29	9.67
Age 66	23	7.66
Age 67	54	18.00
Age 68	81	27.00
Age 69	113	37.67
Totals	300	100.00

Table IX.—With Whom New Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living alone	834	30.87
Living with spouse	979	36.23
Living with spouse and children	109	4.03
Living with children	356	13.18
Living with other relatives	213	7.88
Living with others	127	4.70
Living in public institutions	67	2.48
Living in private institutions	17	0.63
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table X.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In own home	1,164	43.08
In rented house	266	9.84
In children's home	346	12.81
In home of other relatives	83	3.07
Boarding	72	2.67
In boarding home	25	0.93
In housekeeping room	337	12.47
In single room (eating out)	130	4.81
In rented suite	197	7.29
In institutions	82	3.03
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table XI.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	1,557	57.62
$1 to $250	28	1.04
$251 to $500	55	2.04
$501 to $750	69	2.55
$751 to $1,000	94	3.48
$1,001 to $1,500	257	9.51
$1,501 to $2,000	208	7.70
$2,001 and up	434	16.06
Totals	2,702	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	1,192	44.12
$1 to $250	754	27.91
$251 to $500	228	8.44
$501 to $750	141	5.22
$751 to $1,000	112	4.14
$1,001 to $1,500	123	4.55
$1,501 to $2,000	63	2.33
$2,001 and up	89	3.29
Totals	2,702	100.00

Table XII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1959, Whose Assistance Is Paid by British Columbia

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	22	14
Saskatchewan	6	9
Manitoba	5	3
Ontario	16	11
Quebec	1	4
New Brunswick	1	----
Nova Scotia	----	1
Prince Edward Island	----	----
Newfoundland	----	----
Northwest Territories	----	----
Yukon Territory	----	----
Totals	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	81.72
$50 to $54.99	4.45
$45 to $49.99	3.33
$40 to $44.99	2.20
$35 to $39.99	1.92
$30 to $34.99	1.82
$25 to $29.99	1.40
$20 to $24.99	1.11
Less than $19.99	2.05
Total	100.00

Blind Persons' Allowances

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	80
Applications granted	61[1]
Applications refused, withdrawn, etc.	26[2]

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

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*) British Columbia recipients—		
Suspended	20	
Reinstated	13	
Transferred to other Provinces	4	
Returned to British Columbia	3	
Transferred to Old Age Security	19	
Deaths	7	
(*b*) Other-Province recipients—		
Transferred to British Columbia	9	
Reinstated	1	
Transferred out of British Columbia or suspended	5	
Deaths	1	
(*c*) Total on payroll at end of fiscal year—		
British Columbia	505	
Other Province	25	
		530

Table III.—Reasons Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not blind within the meaning of the Act	14	53.85
Income in excess	6	23.08
Applications withdrawn	4	15.38
Eligible for Old Age Security	2	7.69
Died before grant	---	---
Receiving War Veterans' Allowance	---	---
Information refused	---	---
Assistance from private sources	---	---
Receipt of Old Age Security	---	---
Whereabouts unknown	---	---
Totals	26	100.00

Table IV.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	32	52.46
Female	29	47.54
Totals	61	100.00

Table V.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	30	49.18
Single	16	26.23
Widows	4	6.56
Widowers	5	8.20
Separated	6	9.83
Divorced	---	---
Totals	61	100.00

Table VI.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	25	40.98
Other parts of Canada	13	21.31
British Isles	7	11.48
Other parts of British Commonwealth	3	4.92
United States of America	3	4.92
Other foreign countries	10	16.39
Totals	61	100.00

Table VII.—Ages at Granting of Allowance

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 21	5	8.20
Ages 22 to 30	5	8.20
Ages 31 to 40	7	11.48
Ages 41 to 50	10	16.39
Ages 51 to 60	15	24.59
Ages 61 to 69	19	31.14
Totals	61	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Age 21	---	---
Ages 22 to 30	---	---
Ages 31 to 40	---	---
Ages 41 to 50	2	25.00
Ages 51 to 60	3	37.50
Ages 61 to 69	3	37.50
Totals	8	100.00

Table IX.—With Whom New Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living with parents	6	9.84
Living alone	10	16.39
Living with spouse	23	37.70
Living with spouse and children	4	6.56
Living with children	8	13.11
Living with other relatives	2	3.28
Living with others	3	4.92
Living in public institutions	4	6.56
Living in private institutions	1	1.64
Totals	61	100.00

Table X.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In parents' home	5	8.20
In own home	24	39.33
In rented house	7	11.47
In rented suite	3	4.92
In children's home	5	8.20
In home of other relatives	4	6.56
Boarding	2	3.28
In housekeeping room	4	6.56
In boarding home	---	------
In institutions	5	8.20
In single room (eating out)	2	3.28
Totals	61	100.00

Table XI.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	42	68.84
$1 to $250	2	3.28
$251 to $500	1	1.64
$501 to $750	1	1.64
$751 to $1,000	2	3.28
$1,001 to $1,500	3	4.92
$1,501 to $2,000	4	6.56
$2,001 and up	6	9.84
Totals	61	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	42	68.84
$1 to $250	2	3.28
$251 to $500	1	1.64
$501 to $750	1	1.64
$751 to $1,000	2	3.28
$1,001 to $1,500	3	4.92
$1,501 to $2,000	4	6.56
$2,001 and up	6	9.84
Totals	61	100.00

Table XII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1959, Whose Allowances Are Paid by this Province

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	3	1
Saskatchewan	1	2
Manitoba	---	---
Ontario	---	---
Quebec	---	---
New Brunswick	1	---
Nova Scotia	---	---
Prince Edward Island	---	---
Newfoundland	---	---
Northwest Territories	---	---
Yukon Territory	---	---
Totals	5	3

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

	Per Cent
$55	91.57
$50 to $54.99	1.85
$45 to $49.99	1.44
$40 to $44.99	1.03
$35 to $39.99	.82
$30 to $34.99	1.23
$25 to $29.99	.82
$20 to $24.99	.21
$19.99 and less	1.03
Total	100.00

Disabled Persons' Allowances

Table I.—Disposition of Applications

New applications received	418
Applications granted	379[1]
Applications refused, withdrawn, etc.	162

[1] Includes some left over from previous year.

Table II.—Miscellaneous

(*a*) British Columbia recipients—		
Suspended		73
Reinstated		36
Transferred to other Provinces		5
Returned to British Columbia		5
Transferred to Old Age Security		1
Deaths		43
(*b*) Other-Province recipients—		
Transferred to British Columbia		17
Transferred out of British Columbia or suspended		8
Reinstated		3
Deaths		2
(*c*) Total on payroll at end of fiscal year—		
British Columbia	1,551	
Other Province	34	
		1,585

Table III.—Reason Why Applications Not Granted

	Number	Per Cent
Not 18 years of age	1	.62
Unable to prove age	----	----
Not sufficient residence	----	----
Unable to prove residence	----	----
Too much income	17	10.49
Transfer of property	----	----
Refused information	8	4.93
Whereabouts unknown	1	.62
Allowance under *Blind Persons Act*	1	.62
Assistance under *Old-age Assistance Act*	----	----
Allowance under *War Veterans' Allowance Act*	1	.62
Pension under *Old Age Security Act*	----	----
Mothers' Allowance	----	----
Unable to meet medical test	111	68.52
Referred for rehabilitation	----	----
Tuberculosis sanatorium	----	----
Mental hospital	1	.62
Home for the Aged	----	----
Infirmary	----	----
Institution for incurables	----	----
Hospital	4	2.47
Nursing home	2	1.23

Other institutions	1	.62
Application withdrawn	9	5.55
Died before grant	5	3.09
Totals	162	100.00

Table IV.—Primary Causes of Disability on Accepted Cases

	Number	Per Cent
Infective and parasitic diseases	23	6.57
Neoplasms	2	.57
Allergie, endocrine system, metabolic, and nutritional diseases	11	3.16
Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	2	.57
Mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders	121	34.69
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	102	29.24
Diseases of the circulatory system	34	9.75
Diseases of the respiratory system	5	1.43
Diseases of the digestive system	1	.28
Diseases of the genito-urinary system	1	.28
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissues	2	.57
Diseases of the bones and organs of movement	22	6.31
Congenital malformation	7	2.00
Symptoms, senility, and ill-defined conditions	----	----
Accidents, poisoning, and violence (nature of injury)	16	4.58
Totals	349	100.00

Table V.—Sex of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Male	216	57.75
Female	158	42.25
Totals	374	100.00

Table VI.—Marital Status of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
Married	79	21.12
Single	238	63.64
Widow	23	6.15
Widower	11	2.94
Separated	18	4.81
Divorced	5	1.34
Totals	374	100.00

Table VII.—Birthplace of New Recipients

	Number	Per Cent
British Columbia	140	37.43
Other parts of Canada	141	37.70
British Isles	39	10.43
Other parts of British Empire	----	-------
United States of America	20	5.35
Other foreign countries	34	9.09
Totals	374	100.00

Table VIII.—Ages at Granting of Allowance

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 19	48	12.83
Ages 20 to 24	34	9.09
Ages 25 to 29	27	7.22
Ages 30 to 34	33	8.82
Ages 35 to 39	24	6.42
Ages 40 to 44	36	9.63
Ages 45 to 49	35	9.36
Ages 50 to 54	31	8.29
Ages 55 to 59	53	14.17
Ages 60 to 64	51	13.63
Ages 65 to 69	2	.54
Ages over 70	----	-------
Totals	374	100.00

Table IX.—Ages of Recipients at Death

	Number	Per Cent
Ages 18 to 19	----	-------
Ages 20 to 24	1	2.27
Ages 25 to 29	3	6.82
Ages 30 to 34	2	4.54
Ages 35 to 39	----	-------
Ages 40 to 44	----	-------
Ages 45 to 49	4	9.09
Ages 50 to 54	7	15.91
Ages 55 to 59	10	22.73
Ages 60 to 64	10	22.73
Ages 65 to 69	7	15.91
Ages over 70	----	-------
Totals	44	100.00

Table X.—With Whom Recipients Live

	Number	Per Cent
Living with parents	171	45.72
Living alone	36	9.63
Living with spouse	62	16.58
Living with spouse and children	16	4.28
Living with children	22	5.88
Living with other relatives	45	12.02
Living with others	18	4.81
Living in public institution	2	.54
Living in private institution	2	.54
Totals	374	100.00

Table XI.—Where New Recipients Are Living

	Number	Per Cent
In parents' home	122	32.62
In own house	83	22.19
In rented house	29	7.75
In rented suite	21	5.62
In children's home	14	3.74
In home of other relatives	77	20.59
In housekeeping room	12	3.21
In boarding home	----	----
In institutions	4	1.07
In single room (eating out)	12	3.21
Totals	374	100.00

Table XII.—Economic Status of New Recipients

(*a*) Holding real property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	293	78.34
$1 to $250	3	.80
$251 to $500	2	.54
$501 to $750	7	1.87
$751 to $1,000	2	.54
$1,001 to $1,500	26	6.95
$1,501 to $2,000	11	2.94
$2,001 and up	30	8.02
Totals	374	100.00

(*b*) Holding personal property of value—	Number	Per Cent
$0	262	70.05
$1 to $250	58	15.51
$251 to $500	18	4.81
$501 to $750	9	2.41
$751 to $1,000	7	1.87
$1,001 to $1,500	7	1.87
$1,501 to $2,000	4	1.07
$2,001 and up	9	2.41
Totals	374	100.00

Table XIII.—Number of Recipients Living in Other Provinces as at March 31st, 1959, Whose Allowances Are Paid by This Province

	Granted by British Columbia	Granted by Other Provinces
Alberta	2	1
Saskatchewan	---	4
Manitoba	1	---
Ontario	1	5
Quebec	---	1
New Brunswick	---	---
Nova Scotia	---	---
Prince Edward Island	---	---
Newfoundland	---	---
Totals	4	11

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

	Per Cent
$55	93.18
$50 to $54.99	2.33
$45 to $49.99	1.01
$40 to $44.99	1.14
$35 to $39.99	0.57
$30 to $34.99	0.63
$25 to $29.99	0.32
$20 to $24.99	0.32
$19.99 and less	0.50
Total	100.00

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

New Applications

Number received	1,806
Number granted supplementary assistance and health services	1,074
Number granted supplementary assistance only	21
Number granted health services only	121
Number who died before application was granted	18
Number of applications withdrawn	61
Number of applicants ineligible	224
Number of applications pending	287
Total	1,806

General Information

Former old-age pensioners still receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1959	10,332
Old-age Assistance recipients transferred to Old Age Security receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1959	9,307
New Old Age Security pensioners receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1959	6,853
Blind persons in receipt of Old Age Security receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1959	208
Disability pensioners over 70 receiving supplementary assistance on March 31st, 1959	4

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE ACT, YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1959

	Assistance	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid receipients in British Columbia	$4,621,534.89	$1,358,868.96	$5,980,403.85
Less amount of refunds from recipients—			
Overpayments refunded	$22,167.78	$3,577.19	$25,744.97
Miscellaneous refunds	330.00	120.00	450.00
Totals	$22,497.78	$3,697.19	$26,194.97
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$4,599,037.11	$1,355,171.77	$5,954,208.88
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	29,439.77	5,252.38	34,692.15
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	82,472.65	10,597.16	93,069.81
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	2,299,518.55	----------	2,299,518.55
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$2,246,485.68	$1,349,826.99	$3,596,312.67

THE BLIND PERSONS ACT, YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1959

	Allowances	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$333,526.91	$113,571.27	$447,098.18
Less amount of refunds from recipients—			
Overpayments refunded	$1,738.98	$450.37	$2,189.35
Miscellaneous Refunds	32.00	20.00	75.00
Totals	$1,770.98	$470.37	$2,264.35
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$331,755.93	$113,100.90	$444,833.83
Add amount paid other provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	1,293.19	540.00	1,833.19
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	5,411.12	2,903.50	8,314.62
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	248,799.72		248,799.72
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$78,838.28	$110,737.40	$189,552.68

THE DISABLED PERSONS ACT, YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 1959

	Allowances	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$981,767.76	$345,235.87	$1,327,003.63
Less amount of refunds from recipients—			
Overpayments refunded	1,454.88	349.75	1,804.63
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$980,312.88	$344,886.12	$1,325,199.00
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	4,966.74	940.00	5,906.74
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	20,507.37		20,507.37
Less amount refunded by the Federal Government	490,156.46		490,165:46
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$474,615.79	$345,826.12	$820,441.91

Old Age Security Recipients, Supplementary Social Assistance, Year Ended March 31st, 1959

Total amount paid recipients in British Columbia	$6,170,216.13
Less amount of refunds from recipients—	
Overpayments refunded	22,698.61
Miscellaneous refunds	164.93
Total	$22,863.54
Net amount paid to recipients in British Columbia	$6,147,352.59
Add amount paid other Provinces on account of recipients for whom British Columbia is responsible	50,279.46
Less amount received by British Columbia on account of recipients for whom other Provinces are responsible	174,422.59
Total amount paid by British Columbia	$6,023,209.46

The Old Age Pensions Act, Year Ended March 31st, 1959

	Pensions	Supplementary Social Assistance	Total
Amount of refunds received from pensioners' estates	$3,484.50		$3,484.50
Less amount refunded to the Federal Government	2,613.36		2,613.36
Total net refunds received by British Columbia	$871.14		$871.14

Administration Expenses

Salaries and special services	$185,762.21
Office expenses	49,818.16
Travelling expenses	315.25
Incidentals and contingencies	744.49
Equipment and furniture	960.15
Medical examinations	228.66
Total	$237,828.92

Summary

Administration and Assistance

Administration	$237,828.92
Old-age Assistance Act	2,246,485.68
Blind Persons' Allowances Act	78,838.28
Disabled Persons' Allowances Act	474,615.79
Old Age Pensions Act	(credit) *871.14*
As per Public Accounts	$3,036,897.53

SUPPLEMENTARY SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Old-age Assistance Act	$1,349,826.99
Blind Persons' Allowances Act	110,737.40
Disabled Persons' Allowances Act	345,826.12
Universal Old Age Security	6,023,209.46
As per Public Accounts	$7,829,599.97

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 Social Welfare; Mr. H. E. Blanchard, Administrator, Region II, Department of Social Welfare.

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

I submit the annual report of the Medical Services Division for the fiscal year 1958/59.

Table I.—Gross Costs for Fiscal Years 1952/53 to 1958/59

Year	Medical	Drugs [1]	Dental	Optical	Transportation	Other	Total
1952/53	$1,202,759.51	$622,431.21	$73,010.09	$44,858.20	$16,765.41	$8,492.14	$1,968,316.56
1953/54	1,219,968.71	657,840.68	86,717.17	44,350.50	17,380.03	11,100.36	2,037,357.45
1954/55	1,362,928.21	752,948.50	112,719.03	48,074.34	23,891.75	13,454.81	2,314,016.64
1955/56	1,523,658.40	893,356.88	119,512.74	48,341.91	22,504.83	12,733.72	2,620,108.48
1956/57	1,486,400.99	961,405.50	129,267.56	50,565.61	23,359.27	14,421.86	2,665,420.79
1957/58	1,503,964.91	1,106,153.01	148,223.72	55,440.66	25,763.04	16,983.77	2,856,529.11
1958/59	1,587,997.03	1,281,107.27	168,051.06	57,050.37	41,329.60	21,374.78	3,156,910.11

[1] Not included in these figures is the cost of drugs purchased by the dispensary for welfare institutions.

Table II.—Payments to British Columbia Doctors (Gross Costs)

Fiscal Year	Medical Agreement	Immigrant	Other	Total
1955/56	$1,518,274.51	$701.89	$4,682.00	$1,523,658.40
1956/57	1,479,661.21	1,836.78	4,903.00	1,486,400.99
1957/58	1,492,741.27	6,951.51	4,272.13	1,503,964.91
1958/59	1,580,815.44	1,330.62	5,850.97	1,587,997.03

Table III.—Categorical Breakdown of Medical Coverage With Average Numbers of Recipients

Fiscal Year	Social Allowance [1]	Child Welfare Division	Old Age Security Bonus and Blind	Old Age Assistance	Disabled Persons' Allowance	Total Average Monthly Coverage
1955/56	19,273	3,208	36,731	8,448	453	68,113
1956/57	18,165	3,303	36,240	7,739	974	66,421
1957/58	18,363	3,546	36,440	7,195	1,221	66,765
1958/59	19,914	3,814	36,191	7,150	1,516	68,585

[1] Until August 31st, 1958, there was a Mothers' Allowance case load, but effective September 1st, 1958, these cases became Social Allowance cases. So that figures from 1958/59 will be comparable with previous years, Mothers' Allowance and Social Allowance recipients have been combined in this statement under the heading "Social Allowance."

Table IV.—Drug Costs

Fiscal Year	Number of Prescriptions			Costs of Medicines		
	Provincial Pharmacy	Drug-stores	Total	Provincial Pharmacy [1]	Drug-stores	Total
1955/56	15,931	393,367	409,298	$70,353.98	$823,002.90	$893,356.88
1956/57	19,572	398,355	417,927	88,259.99	873,145.51	961,405.50
1957/58	23,487	458,002	481,489	113,841.90	992,311.11	1,106,153.01
1958/59	30,140	534,352	564,492	137,255.34	1,143,851.93	1,281,107.27

[1] Not included in these figures is the cost of drugs purchased by the dispensary for welfare institutions.

DENTAL PROGRAMME

There was no significant change from the annual increment in costs nor in the emphasis on each part of the programme. However, it is encouraging to note that the age-limit for children eligible to take part in the preventive programme of the Health Branch was raised from 12 to 13 years as of February 1st, 1959.

Table V.—Dental Expenses

Fiscal Year	Prophylaxis	Extractions	Dentures	Total
1955/56	$15,385.80	$8,570.90	$95,556.04	$119,512.74
1956/57	24,996.66	7,596.04	96,674.86	129,267.56
1957/58	28,430.52	9,589.80	110,203.40	148,223.72
1958/59	34,115.73	12,138.92	121,796.41	168,051.06

OPTICAL SERVICES

There was but a slight increase in the costs of these services during the past fiscal year. Perhaps this represents a levelling off due to these services approaching an adequate level. One would hope that this is the case, not merely from a cost factor, but as an indication that there was no lack of proper optical care in the welfare programme.

Table VI.—Optical Costs

Fiscal Year	Optometric Examinations	Glasses	Total
1955/56	$9,096.05	$39,245.86	$48,341.91
1956/57	9,213.65	41,351.96	50,565.61
1957/58	9,896.45	45,544.21	55,440.66
1958/59	9,735.50	47,314.87	57,050.37

As for most other services, there has been no lessening in the providing of transportation for welfare recipients for medical reasons, but in fact a definite increase. The reason for this is not immediately apparent, but it may represent more awareness by doctors and the field staff of the availability of such assistance through the Medical Services Division. Although no tabulation has been kept of welfare patients seen by the various travelling clinics of the British Columbia Cancer Clinic, Children's Hospital, and the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, considerable numbers of such persons require financial aid to attend these clinics or for treatment at their respective centres. The travelling costs in such instances cannot be measured in dollars and cents but in the benefits of improved health and also frequently the return to self-maintenance.

In conclusion, we would express our appreciation of the services of the various professional associations, hospitals, and other institutions, without which the health services benefits of the Department could not be effected. We refer particularly to the Canadian Medical Association (British Columbia Division), the British Columbia Dental and Pharmaceutical Associations, the Vancouver and St. Paul's Hospitals, the British Columbia Cancer Institute, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, and the G. F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre. It is to be hoped that further efforts can be made in making use of these and other varied facilities, not only in treating the patients concerned, but also in assisting them wherever possible to return to a position of self-independence.

Respectfully submitted.

G. WAKEFIELD, M.D.,
Director, Medical Services Division.

PART IV.—INSTITUTIONS

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS

I beg to submit the annual report for the Brannen Lake School for Boys for the period ending March 31st, 1959.

Fiscal Year	1949/50	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59
Number in School, April 1st	89	79	104	104	101	96	131	129	152	164
Number A.W.O.L., April 1st	14	13	15	19	4	15	9	1	2	1
Number in Oakalla, April 1st	1	.....	1	3	1	2	19	.....	3	.....
Number in Crease Clinic, April 1st	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Number on extended leave, April 1st	3	.....	.....	.....	4	2	33	17	1	.....
Number on special leave, April 1st	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	27
Number of new admissions	86	130	121	118	105	171	143	222	210	240
Number of Recidivists	25	26	31	23	17	32	24	40	75	52
Total number of admissions	111	156	152	141	122	203	167	262	285	292
Percentage of Recidivism	22.5	16.7	20.4	16.3	13.9	15.8	14.4	15.3	26.3	17.8
Number of releases	126	128	146	155	119	126	212	237	265	283
Number A.W.O.L., March 31st	13	15	19	4	15	9	1	2	1	.....
Number in Oakalla, March 31st	.....	1	3	1	2	19	.....	3 3	.....	5
Number on extended leave, March 31st	.....	.....	.....	4	2	33	17	1	.....	.....
Number in Crease Clinic, March 31st	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Number on special leave, March 31st	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	27	34
Number in the School, March 31st	79	104	104	101	96	131	129	152	164	162
Average daily population	81.7	82	84.3	100.6	102.4	101.9	137.6	144	152	159
Total inmate days	29,808	30,011	30,865	36,721	37,383	37,198	50,371	52,576	55,516	58,079
Average length of stay in months	10	(1)	(1)	9	9.5	(1)	8.3	7.7	6	6
Total A.W.O.L. during the fiscal year	(1)	(1)	(1)	281	432	239	124	156	122	105[2]

[1] Not recorded. [2] Involving seventy-three boys.

During the fiscal year there were 240 admissions and 52 recidivists, making a total of 292 admitted to the school. There was a 17.8-per-cent rate of recidivism. Eleven of the fifty-two recidivists were committed for the third time. Two hundred and seventeen of the boys admitted were Protestant, seventy-one Roman Catholic, and four of other religion. 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
9 years	1	14 years	61
10 ,,	1	15 ,,	93
11 ,,	5	16 ,,	69
12 ,,	7	17 ,,	31
13 ,,	24		

The average age on admission was 14.9 years.

Supervising Agencies of Boys Admitted

	Number of Boys
Provincial Probation Branch	124
Social Welfare Branch and amalgamated district offices	36
Esquimalt Juvenile Court	1
Royal Oak Juvenile Court	4
Saanich Juvenile Court	2
Vancouver Juvenile Court	65
Oak Bay Juvenile Court	1
Victoria Juvenile Court	16
Indian Department	17
Children's Aid Society	10
Catholic Children's Aid Society	2
Child Welfare Division	1
Superintendent of Child Welfare, Yukon	2
Indian Department and Social Welfare Branch	2
Indian Department and Provincial Probation Branch	2
Family and Children's Service	1
Vancouver Juvenile Court and Children's Aid Society	3
Social Welfare Branch and Provincial Probation Branch	2
None	1

Of this number, thirteen were wards of the Superintendent of Child Welfare, eleven of the Children's Aid Society, two of the Catholic Children's Aid Society, and one of the Victoria Family and Children's Service. Seven of these wards were recidivists.

The 292 boys admitted were committed from the following Juvenile Courts:—

Abbotsford	1	Kelowna	2
Alberni	6	Kimberley	1
Alert Bay	3	Kitimat	1
Burnaby	8	Ladner	3
Burns Lake	1	Lake Cowichan	3
Campbell River	4	Langley	1
Chilliwack	8	Lumby	1
Cloverdale	15	Lytton	3
Colwood	2	Masset	2
Coquitlam	4	Mission City	2
Courtenay	3	Nanaimo	7
Cranbrook	2	New Westminster	9
Creston	1	North Vancouver	5
Dawson Creek	3	Oak Bay	1
Duncan	6	Oliver	7
Esquimalt	2	Penticton	2
Fernie	1	Port Alberni	2
Fort St. John	1	Port Coquitlam	6
Gibsons	3	Port Moody	1
Golden	1	Powell River	6
Haney	1	Prince George	11
Hazelton	3	Prince Rupert	3
Hope	4	Qualicum Beach	3
Kamloops	2	Quesnel	2

Richmond	2	Trail	3
Royal Oak	4	Ucluelet	1
Saanich	2	Vancouver	72
Salmon Arm	4	Victoria	20
Sechelt	1	West Summerland	1
Smithers	1	West Vancouver	1
Terrace	2	Whitehorse, Y.T.	2
Tête Jaune	1	Williams Lake	6

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

Of the 292 boys committed to the School during the year, 223 were committed for offences against property, 13 against persons, and 56 for other offences which included incorrigibility.

Of the 240 new admissions during the year, 41 of the boys were never tried on probation but were committed to the School on their first appearance before the Court.

There were 283 boys released from the School during the year. The average length of stay of boys in the School was six months.

Seventy-three boys accounted for the total of 105 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.

A total of 484 boys were worked with in the School during the fiscal year. The population reached a high of 181 at one time.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL TREATMENT

Two hundred and thirty-three boys were given dental care as follows: 681 fillings, 74 X-rays, 315 extractions, 17 new partial dentures made, 1 complete upper denture made, 13 partial dentures were repaired, 1 denture relined, 16 prophylaxis treatments were done, and 2 examinations of teeth.

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 ran about normal. Influenza has accounted for a large number of sick boys but, on the whole, it was a fairly mild type with no complications. Ear trouble was less. The new boys are still being tuberculin tested; only those with a positive reaction have a chest X-ray. Two hundred and forty-three boys were tuberculin tested, twenty of whom had a positive reaction.

In addition to the medical attention given to boys by our School doctor and nurse, necessary operations were performed by the School doctor at the Nanaimo General Hospital. The School was billed for 108 hospital days to cover their care while in hospital.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1958/59

Salaries		$238,335.56
Office expense		5,458.18
Travelling expense		533.44
Heat, light, power, and water		22,724.45
Medical services		12,000.47
Clothing and uniforms		8,006.75
Provisions and catering		59,917.23
Laundry and dry-goods		15,163.35
Equipment and machinery		1,440.44
Medical supplies		1,260.04
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		5,040.28
Transportation		2,411.84
Maintenance and operation of equipment		2,735.24
Incidentals and contingencies		3,749.77
Repairs to furnishings and equipment		381.70
Training programme expense		6,538.23
		$385,696.97
Less—		
Board	$3,144.00	
Rentals	3,396.50	
Transportation	312.90	
Sundry	70.77	
		6,924.17
		$378,772.80
Less increase in inventory—		
Inventory at March 31st, 1959	$18,920.69	
Inventory at March 31st, 1958	15,784.48	
		3,136.21
		$375,636.59
Add Public Works expenditure	$46,074.47	
Less rental	532.00	
		45,542.47
		$421,179.06

Per capita cost *per diem:* $421,179.06÷58,079=$7.25.

RECONCILIATION

Net expenditure as per Public Accounts			$353,100.77
Less increase in inventory			3,136.21
			$349,964.56
Add—			
Maintenance receipts		$3,203.56	
Salary revision		22,468.47	
Public Works expenditure	$46,074.47		
Less rental	532.00		
		45,542.47	
			71,214.50
			$421,179.06

It will be noted that the average daily population of the School was 159 boys. Since the School has no control over admissions, we must accept all boys committed to our School.

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

I beg to submit the annual report for the Industrial School for Girls covering the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1959. This is the forty-fifth annual report and will be the last from the original School at 800 Cassiar St. Early in the new fiscal year we will be moving to the new Willingdon School for Girls in Burnaby, which was officially opened by the Honourable Eric Martin, Minister of Health and Welfare, on March 26th, 1959. This has been a year of anticipation by both girls and staff as we looked forward to the move, and much of the time of senior members of staff was taken up with details of furnishings and equipment and plans for the programme in the new School.

We have continued to carry out as full a programme of interests and activities as possible and there has been increased participation with considerable improvement in general behaviour by the girls.

Stability in staff has continued with no major changes in the permanent establishment. In September, a second school-teacher was added for the high school grades and commercial subjects and we discontinued almost entirely the use of correspondence courses. More than two-thirds of our total population attended academic classes. Four girls completed the hairdressing course and three of them found employment in beauty-parlours on their release. The fourth girl was too young to take the Government examinations and sought other employment rather than accept an apprenticeship in hairdressing. The sewing-room continued to provide interest for a number of girls producing articles of clothing for all the girls. Physical education with classes in self-improvement, team games, and swimming, has continued to play a big part in our rehabilitation programme. An ever growing number of volunteers have continued to take an interest in the girls and helped to expand our programme. We feel this group, too, does much to interpret to the community the real function of the institution and has done much to ease the girls' return to the community.

Our social workers have continued to strengthen our relationships with the social agencies in the community by a continued interpretation of the girls and their desires and needs when they return to the community.

The health of the girls has remained good. Medical needs have been taken care of by our staff nurse and our doctor, who continued to come to the School once a week. The V.D. Clinic sees all new admissions. Extensive use has been made of Vancouver General Hospital Out-patients' Department. A dental clinic at O.P.D. once every two weeks takes care of emergencies and a minimum of other dental needs. Eye examinations are carried out by a specialist and glasses provided when recommended.

During the first six months of the year only twenty-six were admitted, while during the last six months there were fifty-five admissions, until March found us with over seventy actually in the School.

During the year there were sixty-six new admissions and fifteen repeaters, making a total of eighty-one admitted. Only thirty-six came from Metropolitan Vancouver, and the other forty-five represented every other part of the Province. Ten out of the fifteen repeaters were from Greater Vancouver, and seven out of these ten were wards of the Children's Agencies and one of the balance was on the Woodlands School waiting list.

Age on admission this year showed an increase in the older age-group.

Age on Admission	Number Admitted	Age on Admission	Number Admitted
12	2	15	17
13	10	16	28
14	9	17	15

The majority of the charges continue to be incorrigibility or broken probation.

There were seventy-two girls released during the year and the average length of stay was 10.6 months. Forty-nine returned to their own homes, twenty-one went to homes of relatives or to foster homes, one was admitted to Woodlands School, and one Hungarian refugee accepted voluntary repatriation back to Hungary.

A closer examination of the admissions suggests they fell into three groups:—

(*a*) True delinquents capable of being helped in a training school	47
Plus seven Native Indians who would not likely have come to the School if the Indian had the same laws as the white	7
	54
(*b*) Those whose delinquent behaviour pattern had become too firmly established and who had no desire to change and therefore were beyond help in an open training school	15
(*c*) The more seriously disturbed child requiring treatment in a more protected and probably a psychiatric setting	11
Plus Woodlands School waiting list	1
	81

This report would not be complete without a backward glance over the last forty-five years.

This old School was built in 1913 and officially opened on April 3rd, 1914, by Honourable the Attorney-General W. J. Bowser, K.C. The first girl was admitted on February 28th, 1914, and was sentenced for seven years. The others sent in during the same year were all for " an undefined period of not less than two years." Since that date to the end of the present fiscal year fourteen hundred and seventy-one girls have been admitted. During the forty-five years there have been seven Superintendents: Mr. T. H. Collier and Mrs. Collier, as matron, 1914–17 (Mrs. Collier passed away this spring at the age of 93); Miss Margaret W. Bayne, deceased, 1918–29; Mrs. A. G. Westman, 1929–44; Miss Maude V. Fleming, 1945–48; Miss Willa Broderick, 1948–49; Miss Ayra E. Peck, 1949–55. Miss Peck had also served as teacher and Assistant Superintendent, with a total of twenty years on staff; and the present incumbent since March, 1955.

In more recent years the School has been described as a " house of horror " and, while there have been days when those of us within could agree, there has never been a day without a bright spot somewhere and there were years when reports said it was a comfortably furnished home without the appearance of an institution. To many of the girls who have passed through its doors it has meant a new lease on life.

In conclusion, we take this opportunity to express our appreciation and thanks to all the volunteers—individuals and groups—who have taken such a keen interest in our girls and given so generously of their time in assisting the staff with our programme throughout the year. We are greatly indebted to them. May I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the senior administration for their support and encouragement and to my staff for work well done.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

POPULATION OF THE SCHOOL, MARCH 31ST, 1959

On roll, April 1st, 1958	69	
Girls admitted during April 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959	81	
		150
Officially released	71	
Transferred to other institutions with subsequent official release from Girls' Industrial School	1	
Transferred to other institutions but not officially released		72
Total unreleased, March 31st, 1959		78

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1958/58

Salaries		$124,863.61
Office expense		3,241.69
Travelling expense		1,233.92
Heat, light, power, and water		6,045.73
Medical services		6,016.65
Clothing and uniforms		3,003.37
Provisions and catering		20,497.40
Laundry and dry-goods		212.85
Good Conduct Fund		1,553.01
Equipment and machinery		326.10
Medical supplies		1,813.38
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		849.19
Transportation		1,613.92
Maintenance and operation of equipment		113.04
Incidentals and contingencies		316.74
Vocational and recreational supplies, etc.		1,308.93
Sundry expense *re* operation of new School		2,542.88
		$175,552.41
Less—		
Rentals	$45.00	
Board	441.00	
Sundry receipts	73.00	
		559.00
		$174,993.41
Add decrease in inventory—		
Inventory at March 31st, 1958	$5,203.58	
Inventory at March 31st, 1959	4,350.14	
		853.44
		$175,846.85
Add Public Works expenditure		14,741.21
		$190,588.06

Per capita cost *per diem:* $190,588.06÷18,765=$10.16.

Reconciliation

Net expenditure as per Public Accounts		$157,880.35
Add—		
Salary revision	$17,113.06	
Decrease in inventory	853.44	
Public Works expenditure	14,741.21	
		32,707.71
		$190,588.06

Respectfully submitted.

(MISS) WINIFRED M. URQUHART,
Superintendent.

PROVINCIAL HOME, KAMLOOPS

I herewith submit the annual report of the Provincial Home for the Aged and Infirm, Kamloops, for the fiscal year 1958/59.

BUILDINGS

The interior of the Home received some attention during the year and the improvements made are enjoyed. Bathrooms in three wards have been modernized. For the sick ward, added conveniences were completed, chiefly by modernizing the bathroom and installation of a shower. The kitchen was redecorated, also new tile for the floor. Some decorating was done in the rooms.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Home continues to provide good patient care. Medical and surgical services were again provided by the Irving Clinic and medical supplies purchased from the Provincial Pharmacy. The diet has been improved with the assistance of the nutrition consultant and the dietician from Tranquille. An evening snack was commenced and proved satisfactory, resulting in better rest. The daily bed-patient average is 12. The average number of patients examined weekly by the attending physician is 18. All acute cases receive hospitalization.

ENTERTAINMENT

Concerts and religious services were again presented by local organizations throughout the year, particularly at Easter and Christmas. Special effort was made for decorating at Christmas time. The highlight of the year was H.R.H. Princess Margaret as she passed by the Home. Bingo games are popular and are played twice a month. Television is appreciated. A picture show is held weekly.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment received during the year was a desk, steno chair, and filing cabinet for the dispensary, new heating elements and plates for the kitchen range, fifty stacking chairs for a recreation-room, and forty-eight lockers for the staff and inmates.

GENERAL

A limited canteen was started and is worth while, allowing the more feeble to purchase extras. The laundry was again processed at the Home after Tranquille closed. Fire-protection for the Home is always in the fore. The Provincial Home cemetery was accepted by the Department of Public Works for maintenance and care.

Ground-floor space is still at a premium as a number of new admittances are feeble old men and, when stronger, are transferred upstairs. The staff is continually active in helping to create good relations among the inmates, resulting in them helping each other.

The population in the Home consists of twenty-five nationalities. There are fourteen different religions. Presently there are only ten inmates under 70 years of age and only six not receiving a pension.

The population, by birthdates, is divided as follows:—

Birthdates	Number of Inmates	Average Age
1900–1910	1	51
1895–1899	3	63
1890–1894	6	66
1885–1889	22	72
1880–1884	38	76
1875–1879	33	82
1870–1874	17	86
1865–1869	10	90

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1958/59

Salaries		$95,701.02
Office expense		690.81
Travelling expense		141.91
Heat, light, power, and water		1,809.47
Medical services		6,283.10
Clothing and uniforms		1,933.41
Provisions and catering		29,502.05
Laundry and dry-goods		4,772.50
Equipment and machinery		1,673.86
Medical supplies		2,711.56
Maintenance of buildings and grounds		1,181.42
Transportation		253.69
Burials		1,375.00
Maintenance and operation of equipment		394.55
Incidentals and contingencies		1,854.81
		$150,279.16
Less—		
Board	$1,125.00	
Rent	420.00	
		1,545.00
		$148,734.16

SUMMARY

Provincial Home expenditure	$148,734.16
Public Works expenditure	11,472.50
	$160,206.66

Cost *per capita per diem:* $160,206.66÷43,329=$3.70.
Pensions paid to Government Agent, Kamloops, $76,776.19.

RECONCILIATION

Net expenditure as per Public Accounts		$70,765.96
Add salary revision		10,962.87
		$81,728.83
Add maintenance receipts—		
Pensions	$76,776.19	
Municipalities	4,492.84	
Transfers from Provincial Home Trust Account	2,442.60	
Other collections	327.92	
		84,039.55
		$165,768.38
Add Public Works expenditure		11,472.50
		$177,240.88
Less—		
Pensioners' Comforts	$7,352.75	
Proportion of excess of disbursements over receipts for Tranquille Farm	9,681.47	
		17,034.22
		$160,206.66

I wish to thank all staff members, co-workers, and senior administration for their assistance and support during the year.

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 1958. As licences are issued on the basis of the calendar year, this report covers the period from January 1st, 1958, to December 31st, 1958.

LICENCES

The total number of cases dealt with during the year was 1,058, made up of 656 licensed institutions and 402 pending applications. Of the licensed institutions, 84 closed during the year and 313 pending applications were closed or withdrawn. The total case load at December 31st, 1958, was 717, made up of 572 licensed institutions and 145 pending applications.

BOARD MEETINGS

Eight Board meetings were held during the year. In April Dr. J. L. M. Whitbread replaced Dr. A. A. Larsen as the representative from the Health Branch, Department of Health and Welfare. The members of the Board for 1958 were:—

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

Members: Mr. F. P. Levirs, Chief Inspector of Schools, Department of Education; Miss Ruby McKay, Superintendent, Child Welfare Division; Mr. A. A. Shipp, Assistant Administrator, Region II, Social Welfare Branch; and Dr. J. L. M. Whitbread, Director, Environmental Management, Health Branch.

Chief Inspector: Mrs. Edna L. Page.

WELFARE INSTITUTIONS FOR CHILDREN

A. Full-time Care of Children

There were no changes in the number of institutions licensed for children or type of service given. A committee of representatives from these institutions, under the chairmanship of the Superintendent of Child Welfare, continued to meet during 1958. 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.

There was no appreciable change in the number of private boarding homes for children licensed in 1958. These homes continue to give good service to parents needing to board their children. The Advisory Committee on Private Boarding Homes for Children, under the chairmanship of the Senior Medical Health Officer, City of Vancouver, met regularly to discuss children's boarding homes in the Vancouver area. The other members of this committee were representatives from the Children's Aid Society, Catholic Children's Aid Society, Foster Day Care Association, and Welfare Institutions Office.

B. Day Care of Children

Foster Homes for Day Care

During the year an acting executive director was appointed to the Foster Day Care Association, Vancouver, to replace Mrs. Kathleen Smith, who had given long and faithful service to this agency. A home-finder was also appointed, and this resulted in the licensing of a large number of new and suitable homes offering this service. The finding of safe homes where working mothers can place their

children is an important and necessary community programme. This service was expanded considerably during 1958 as a result of the work done by the Foster Day Care Association, which supervised this programme in the Vancouver area.

Kindergartens, Play-schools, etc.

The private kindergarten and pre-school programme continued to expand in British Columbia. Because a well-established training programme is set up, more qualified persons are now available for positions as pre-school supervisors. The British Columbia Pre-school Education Association continued to meet regularly, and the future aims of the group were consolidated.

Schools for Retarded Children

There was a sharp increase in the number of schools of this type licensed in 1958, as interest in the retarded child grew in the Province. The British Columbia Association for Retarded Children expanded its membership and services. The association continued to work toward their aim of having the Department of Education provide facilities and assume the cost of educating the retarded child on the same basis as the normal child.

MATERNITY HOMES

There was no change in the status or programme of the three maternity homes serving the Province.

AGED-CARE

During 1958 there was considerable public interest in boarding homes and nursing homes for the elderly.

Throughout the Province several local societies were incorporated, having as their aim to raise money to provide housing for the aged. Non-profit groups such as these can apply for financial grants from the Provincial Government under the terms of the *Elderly Citizens' Housing Aid Act* to help cover the cost of construction. During 1958 a start was made on the Dr. F. W. Greene Memorial Home for the aged in Cranbrook.

Several new privately operated boarding homes were licensed during the year, and this type of establishment offers a home-like atmosphere to the elderly. Many of these homes are doing a very worth-while job in caring for persons in receipt of public assistance in their area.

UNEMPLOYED ADULTS

One of the five homes licensed for this type of care was closed in 1958. The Bethel Girls' Home, operated by the Mennonite Church, which had provided a home for girls seeking jobs and to become established, discontinued this service.

The Narcotic Addiction Foundation of British Columbia opened a home as a treatment centre for addicts. There is residential care for four persons in the home and out-patient treatment is also offered. The programme consists of therapy and counselling from professional staff.

SUMMER CAMPS

Clear, through the gathering dusk, a bugle sounds,
In quick response the campers turn from play;
While through the silent hills the call resounds,
They stand erect to honour close of day.

A large number of new applications for licences for summer camps were received in 1958 as more organizations became interested in providing a camping

experience for children. Continuing efforts to improve camping standards were made by the Department of Health and Welfare together with the Provincial Fire Marshal's office. This year, also, those camps which have electrical installations were inspected by the Provincial Electrical Energy Department for the first time. The British Columbia Camping Association continued to offer co-operation and advice to those interested in camping. A camp directory was published and the camp referral programme made it possible for underprivileged children to attend a camp.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

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

	1955	1956	1957	1958
Children—Total Care (Excluding Summer Camps)				
Number licensed—				
Institutions	10	10	9	9
Boarding homes	58	59	54	46
Capacity—				
Institutions	500	452	385	357
Boarding homes	150	142	120	105
Number of children under care—				
Institutions	596	516	468	397
Boarding homes	189	171	155	126
Number of days' care—				
Institutions	92,264	89,678	91,446	82,788
Boarding homes	37,316	38,058	33,089	30,557
Summer Camps				
Number licensed	58	67	73	74
Capacity	3,765	4,214	4,891	5,280
Number of persons attending	15,861	16,736	21,578	22,695
Number of attendance days	149,616	165,867	200,516	233,565
Children—Day Care				
Number licensed—				
Kindergartens	222	221	243	260
Schools for retarded children	.....	8	13	25
Foster day care	32	33	35	50
Capacity—				
Kindergartens	5,295	5,637	6,310	6,724
Schools for retarded children	.....	180	227	358
Foster day care	154	104	140	172
Number of children enrolled—				
Kindergartens	8,640	9,636	11,022	11,392
Schools for retarded children	.....	162	227	340
Foster day care	247	237	277	320
Number of attendance days—				
Kindergartens	745,563	781,558	883,865	940,628
Schools for retarded children	.....	21,374	27,017	42,917
Foster day care	20,087	19,628	23,879	27,754
Adults—Infirm and Unemployables				
Number licensed	167	163	170	184
Capacity	2,426	2,510	2,671	2,805
Number of persons under care	3,612	3,645	3,775	3,851
Number of days' care	724,980	761,642	803,705	859,962
Adults—Employable				
Number licensed	4	5	5	5
Capacity	69	75	75	72
Number of persons under care	411	504	557	473
Number of days' care	17.012	17,338	19,809	16,208
Women—Maternity				
Number licensed	3	3	3	3
Capacity (mothers and infants)	115	115	115	115
Number of persons under care—				
Mothers	271	278	319	327
Infants	201	209	235	259
Number of days' care	26,671	26,307	29,309	28,795

Table II.—Case Load Showing the Total Number of Licensed Institutions and Pending Applications, 1958

Licensed	Licensed Jan. 1, 1958	Licensed in 1958	Licensed Institutions Closed in 1958	Total Cases Licensed at Dec. 31, 1958
Children—total care—				
1. Boarding homes	43	3	6	40
2. Institutions	9	-----	-----	9
3. Camps	72	2	2	72
Children—day care—				
1. Kindergartens	217	43	36	224
2. Schools for retarded children	12	13	5	20
3. Foster day care	30	20	10	40
Aged—				
1. Boarding homes	111	38	23	126
2. Institutions	34	1	1	34
Adults—employable	5	-----	1	4
Homes—maternity	3	-----	-----	3
Totals	536	120	84	572

Licensed January 1st, 1958	536
Licensed in 1958	120
	656
Closed	84
	572

Licenses Pending	Pending Jan. 1, 1958	New Cases in 1958	Closed in 1958	Total Pending Dec. 31, 1958
Children—total care—				
1. Boarding homes	13	28	31	10
2. Institutions	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Camps	8	15	3	20
Children—day care—				
1. Kindergartens	34	106	103	37
2. Schools for retarded children	10	15	17	8
3. Foster day care	18	80	78	20
Aged—				
1. Boarding homes	23	98	79	42
2. Institutions	3	5	2	6
Adults—employable	-----	2	-----	2
Homes—maternity	-----	-----	-----	-----
Totals	109	349	313	145

Carried from January 1st, 1958	109
New cases	349
	458
Closed	313
	145

Total Case Load

Licensed	572
Pending	145
	717

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted.

(MRS.) FLORENCE L. IRELAND,
Social Worker, on behalf of the late Mrs. E. L. Page.

PART V.—MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT, DIVISION OF TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL

During the year ending March 31st, 1959, the Division of Tuberculosis Control has continued to adapt service to the changing situation in relation to the treatment of tuberculosis. As shorter hospital-treatment time is required, the number of beds needed for in-patient treatment continues to decrease, but, of course, the turnover is faster. The plan to accommodate all patients requiring in-patient treatment in the Vancouver area was realized in October, 1958, when Tranquille Sanatorium closed after some fifty years of operation as a tuberculosis sanatorium. The closing of Tranquille had taken place gradually, beginning in 1954, when 300 patients were under treatment there, to September 23rd, 1959, when the remaining patients were transferred to the Vancouver units. Present treatment facilities for those patients requiring hospital care comprise 367 beds, of which 264 are at Pearson Tuberculosis Hospital and 103 at Willow Chest Centre. There were 734 admissions in 1958 and 831 discharges.

In addition to offering hospital treatment, the Tuberculosis Division continues to serve all areas of the Province with diagnostic and follow-up service through stationary and travelling clinics, in co-operation with the Provincial Public Health Service. The 1958 annual report for the Division of Tuberculosis Control showed that there was an increase in the number of tuberculosis cases found by the survey clinics from 226 in 1957 to 265 in 1958, despite the fact that the number of X-rays taken was reduced by 90,000. This reduction in X-rays taken was due to greater selection of cases to be examined and the introduction of tuberculin testing as a screening method, but was due also in a large part to the fear of radiation. The number of new reported cases in the calendar year 1958 was 1,128, of which 754 were diagnosed as active.

Major changes in the Social Service Department accompanied the consolidation of the in-patient treatment programme in the two Vancouver units. At the beginning of this year the position of Provincial Supervisor was deleted, and the administrative duties which remained became the responsibility of the Casework Supervisor. Social Service staff complement was established at three—a Casework Supervisor and two caseworkers. The Department was permitted time to accomplish this change to reduced staff so that service to patients could be maintained during the period of adjustment. By the end of July, 1958, the necessary staff reduction had taken place and there have been no staff changes since that time. One social worker is assigned to Willow Chest Centre, where service is offered to both hospital and clinic patients, and one social worker is assigned to Pearson Unit, where the case load consists of in-patients. The Supervisor carries a case load at Pearson unit but spends regular hours each week at Willow Chest Centre, where the headquarters of the Tuberculosis Division is located.

The interdepartmental referral procedure described in the previous report has continued in use and is proving to be a satisfactory method of bringing the service of the Department to those patients who require help with social or emotional aspects of their illness, and has also been helpful in planning economical use of staff time. The Department has continued to place concise recordings of Social Service activity on medical records for the information of treatment personnel, and on all new admissions makes a note of potential areas of difficulty as revealed by home reports. The year's statistics indicate an increase in interstaff discussion in regard to planning for patients, as compared with the previous year. It can be assumed

that both the referral procedure and the chart recording have contributed to this valuable increase in communication on behalf of patients as well as to the clarification and definition of areas in which the social worker can contribute to the total treatment plan of the patient.

The Social Service Department has continued to use community resources on behalf of patients and their families and has worked co-operatively with many district Social Welfare offices, as well as with Greater Vancouver public and private social agencies, both in referring patients for service and in receiving requests for service from other agencies.

The Social Service Department wishes to acknowledge the continued financial contributions from the British Columbia Tuberculosis Society and the Mt. Garibaldi Chapter and the Municipal Chapter of the I.O.D.E. These contributions are used to meet emergency needs of patients for whom no other resources are available.

During the year staff participated in the education programmes of the nursing education department of the Tuberculosis Division and in the training programme of the Social Welfare Branch.

Total number of casework interviews with patients by staff in all units was 1,726. Total number of conferences with other professional workers was 1,953.

Respectfully submitted.

(MRS.) M. TITTERINGTON,
Casework Supervisor.

PART VI.—ACCOUNTING DIVISION

The functions of the Accounting Division 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 increased from $28,888,200 in 1957/58 to $35,264,700 in 1958/59, or $6,376,500. This was an increase of slightly more than 22 per cent, and the large increase in Social Allowances was due not only to an increase in case load but also to an increase in basic rates effective April 1st, 1958.

Main Service	Proportion of Total Welfare Expenditure			
	1957/58		1958/59	
	Per Cent	Value	Per Cent	Value
Administration	1.7	$497,500	1.4	$495,700
Institutions	2.8	816,800	2.2	771,800
Field Service	4.5	1,289,700	3.5	1,255,000
Maintenance of dependent children	7.6	2,185,000	6.9	2,444,900
Medical services, drugs, optical, etc.	9.9	2,853,900	9.0	3,156,800
Social Allowances, etc.	28.6	8,259,300	37.4	13,177,000
Old-age Assistance, Blind Persons' Allowance, Disabled Persons' Allowance, and supplementary social assistance for the aged and handicapped	44.9	12,986,000	39.6	13,963,500
	100.0	$28,888,200	100.0	$35,264,700

It is interesting to note that expenditure on Social Allowance in 1958/59 is nearly as large as that on Old-age Assistance, Blind Persons' Allowance, Disabled Persons' Allowance, and supplementary social assistance for the aged and handicapped.

The allowances paid directly to the individuals receiving the benefit (Old-age Assistance, Disabled Persons' Allowance, Blind Persons' Allowance, and supplementary social assistance for the aged and handicapped, Social Allowance, and Mothers' Allowance) formed 77 per cent of the total expenditure. Payments to foster-parents, health services, institutional care, and the cost of social workers' services were 21.6 per cent of the total expenditure. The balance, 1.4 per cent, was for operations which were solely administrative.

The Accounting Division continued to produce a monthly report on case loads and case-load activity from the regional and district reports and assisted in the development of new forms in connection with the administration of Social Allowance.

During the year the total mileage on cars driven by staff members was 991,613, including eighty-nine Government-owned cars driven 581,568 miles and ninety-eight privately owned cars driven 410,045 miles paid for on a mileage basis.

Respectfully submitted.

J. McDiarmid,
Departmental Comptroller.

Printed by Don McDiarmid, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
in right of the Province of British Columbia.
1960

1,060-1259-1831