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Name: Queensland Past and Present: 100 Years of Statistics, 1896–1996

Section name: Chapter 9, Social Welfare, Endnotes, Section 4

Pages: 307–309

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SUMMARY

The one hundred year period 1896–1996 was characterised by the removal of the philosophical distinction between the ‘deserving’ and ‘undeserving’ poor and by greater involvement by Government in the funding of social security pensions and allowances and welfare programs.

Social security payments were almost non-existent in 1896. Families were expected to provide for the aged and disabled. New South Wales introduced an age pension in 1900, Queensland in 1907 and the Commonwealth in 1909. An unemployment insurance scheme commenced in Queensland in 1923. Child endowment was introduced by the Commonwealth Government in 1941 and widow pensions in 1942. Further pensions, allowances, benefits and other payments were subsequently introduced and refined. Social security expenditure in Queensland grew by more than 200-fold from $31.2m in 1950–51 to $6,312.4m in 1994–95.

Welfare services by Government bodies and other groups were in place before social security payments were introduced. Residential institutions for orphans and other children in care were established in Queensland from the mid nineteenth century. Dunwich Benevolent Institution housed the aged from 1867 and by the 1890s various other groups of disadvantaged persons. Increasingly, residential services have been run by non-profit organisations rather than directly by Government. Non-residential welfare services have increased steadily in recent decades, with disadvantaged persons staying in the general community wherever possible rather than being sent to residential institutions.
QUEENSLAND PAST AND PRESENT

Endnotes

11. Department of Veterans' Affairs, unpublished data.
17. Carney & Hanks, p. 81.
26. Lawson, p. 139.
27. Lawson, p. 139.
29. Lawson, p. 145.
308
34. R. Evans, Charitable institutions of the Queensland Government, in Lawson, p. 141; Registrar-General, *Statistics of the State of Queensland*, various years.