

the supervision and adjudication of claims. All collections and payments are made by the Department. No applications under the Statute could be received after Sept. 1, 1923, but its operation has been extended from time to time, and applications may now be received until Aug. 31, 1933.

During the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1931, 1,757 applications for policies were received, of which 1,644 were accepted and 113 refused. The number of policies issued, including some in which applications had been accepted prior to the commencement of the period under review, was 1,672.

The total number of policies in force on Mar. 31, 1931, was 29,013, representing an insurance of \$64,314,952. During the fiscal year the premium income was \$1,791,542, interest was \$331,919, making a total of \$2,123,461. Expenditure during the year, in respect of death claims, cancelled insurance and surrendered policies, amounted to \$842,911. The total number of death claims to Mar. 31, 1931, was 2,478, amounting to \$6,633,579. The balance on hand as at Mar. 31, 1931, was \$9,249,236.

Section 6.—Soldier and General Land Settlement.¹

In the fall of 1930, a comprehensive survey of the operations and administration of soldier and general land settlement was undertaken by the Minister of Immigration and Colonization, with the object of increasing the efficiency of the organization and decreasing administration costs.

The work of land revaluation, which reduced the accounts of soldier settlers by \$7,476,092, has been completed, and the legislation of 1930, granting 30 p.c. reduction of the indebtedness of soldier settlers, meant a further writing down of settlers' accounts to the extent of \$11,318,014. These two enactments involved a reduction of \$18,794,107.

Reorganization of the Service was completed early in 1931. Formerly it consisted of a Board of three Commissioners, nine executive branches at Head Office and eleven district offices, with a total staff of 526. It now functions under a single Director and three executive branches. This reorganization effected a diminution of staff by 158 and a salary cost reduction of \$270,264. The number of motor cars was reduced by 43. Total reduction of annual administration costs was \$330,274. In the conduct of reorganization care was taken that there should be no elimination or curtailment of services essential to settlers.

As formerly, the Soldier Settlement of Canada conducts the work of soldier settlement under the Soldier Settlement Act of 1919 and amendments, and general land settlement as the Land Settlement Branch of the Department of Immigration and Colonization.

Under the Soldier Settlement Act, 24,491 soldier settlers were established on the land with loans. At the end of 1931 there were 11,612 soldier settlers, 5,184 civilian settlers, 2,383 British family settlers, 226 civilian settlers on reverted British family farms and 3,409 farms on hand for resale. Two thousand two hundred and seventy-three loans have been repaid in full. There are now 19,405 active settlers as well as 3,409 parcels of land, or a total of 22,814 farms under administration.

There has been a reduction in gross loans from \$145,220,320 to \$63,383,228, accounted for as follows: paid into the Dominion treasury in principal and interest, \$49,270,197; written off settlers' accounts by remedial legislation, \$21,721,977; deducted on account of losses sustained in the resale of land and chattels, \$10,844,918.

¹ Revised by C. W. Cavers, Soldier Settlement of Canada. Figures are as of Dec. 31, 1931.