

The Department of Veterans Affairs has established throughout its district offices small specialist staff sections whose responsibility it is, in co-operation with the National Employment Service, to screen, classify and counsel older veterans and to assist them to obtain work suited to their capacity and ability or to obtain other means of maintenance.

Subsection 7.—Assistance in Social Problems

The social adjustment of individual veterans is of real concern to the Treatment and Rehabilitation Branches of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Social Service Division consists of trained social workers whose purpose is to increase the social-work knowledge and understanding of members of the Department who see the veteran at first hand. It is also the function of the Division to see that existing social services are utilized to the maximum in dealing with problems presented by veterans who come to the Department for assistance. It is a basic assumption that the Department must not establish any social service for the veteran which is already available to him as a member of the community in which he lives. In order to prevent such duplication of service, it is necessary for the Social Service Division to work in close co-operation with local social agencies, community chests and councils, municipal, provincial and federal welfare departments, as well as schools of social work.