

support a mobile consultative service. The national body promotes research projects in various universities and institutions and provides clinical fellowships to physicians in all parts of Canada.

**Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada.**—Organized in 1948 to encourage, support and co-ordinate research regarding multiple sclerosis, the Society also compiles statistics and carries on public education. The national office in Ottawa is maintained by twelve provincial and local chapters whose chief function is fund raising from which research projects are financed.

**The Canadian Association for Retarded Children.**—The Association was incorporated in 1958 to assist and give co-ordinated direction to the work of a growing number of organizations for the mentally retarded as represented by 10 provincial and some 105 local groups. Membership of the locals exceeds 12,000, most of whom are parents of mentally retarded children.

**The Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada.**—This Association was organized in 1954 to stimulate and unify efforts in research into the cause, nature and cure of muscular dystrophy and to promote the establishment of facilities for diagnostic, consultative and treatment services. It has a national office in Toronto supported by nine regional chapters and its chief activity is the support of research projects in medical centres across the country.

## PART IV.—VETERANS SERVICES\*

The Department of Veterans Affairs administers most of the legislation making up the Veterans Charter and provides administrative facilities for the Canadian Pension Commission which administers the Pension Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, for the War Veterans Allowance Board which is responsible for the War Veterans Allowance Act, and for the Secretary-General of the Imperial War Graves Commission (Canada).

The main benefits now provided to veterans consist of medical treatment for those eligible to receive it, land settlement and home construction assistance, educational assistance for children of the war dead, veterans insurance, general welfare services, disability and widows pensions, and war veterans allowances. The work of the Department, excepting the administration of the Veterans' Land Act, is carried out through 17 district and five sub-district offices in Canada and one district office in England. There are eight VLA district offices and 31 regional offices to administer the benefits of that Act.

### Section 1.—Medical, Dental and Prosthetic Services

**Medical Services.**—The Department of Veterans Affairs, through its Treatment Services Branch, provides medical services for eligible veterans across Canada. Service is also provided for members of the Armed Services, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the wards of other governments or departments at the request and expense of the authorities concerned.

The primary responsibility of the Branch is provision of examination and treatment to disability pensioners for their pensionable disabilities. These veterans constitute about one-quarter of the in-patient load. Treatment is provided to the pensioner regardless of his place of residence, but service to other veterans is available in Canada only.

Other main groups of veterans receiving treatment are War Veterans Allowance recipients, veterans whose service and need make them eligible for domiciliary care, and veterans whose service and financial circumstances render them eligible for free treatment, or at a cost adjusted to their ability to pay. If beds are available, any veteran may receive treatment in a departmental hospital on a guarantee of payment of the cost of treatment.

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