3.—Death Claims Intimated to Dec. 31, 1960, with Cumulative Totals 1921-50

Year	Returned Soldiers' Insurance		Veterans Insurance	
	No.	$	No.	$
1921-50	8,128	17,510,282	174	486,500
1951	379	720,810	122	370,000
1952	418	817,559	178	461,500
1953	412	813,446	189	544,500
1954	421	821,930	187	495,500
1955	428	799,440	177	512,740
1956	434	813,743	216	590,868
1957	447	842,608	225	639,048
1958	486	902,324	254	687,145
1959	436	835,327	283	806,546
1960	462	928,255	357	1,096,010

Section 4.—Land Settlement and Home Construction

Veterans' Land Act.—The major amendments made to the Act in 1959, as summarized on p. 339 of the 1960 edition of the Year Book, created a substantial increase in the volume of loan approvals and expenditures in 1960. A total of 1,851 loans were approved on behalf of veterans desiring settlement as small holders and commercial fishermen, 10.2 p.c. more than in the previous year. While this increase was significant, the most marked effect of the amendments occurred in the field of farm loans with financial assistance to the amount of $14,914,122 being expended on behalf of 2,086 farmers compared with $5,275,344 for 938 farmers in 1959.

In broadening the uses and raising the financial ceiling of farm loans from $9,000 to $20,000, the legislative amendments made in 1959 stipulated that the basic purpose of such loans was the acquisition or development of economic farm units. Under the Regulations, such a unit is defined to mean an organized assembly of farm land, buildings, livestock and farm equipment, or any combination thereof, which will produce a net income capable of retiring the remaining capital cost of the farm (75 p.c.) over a period of 30 years and of supplying the veteran and his family with a typical Canadian standard of living. These provisions, together with other requirements that each loan must be based on the estimated agricultural productive value of the unit and that an applicant for a loan in excess of 65 p.c. of the agricultural productive value must agree to follow an acceptable farm plan, constitute 'built-in' safeguards both for the investment of public funds and the successful establishment of veterans as full-time farmers.

These various safeguards and controls have increased the duties and responsibilities of the Farm Credit Advisers in the field. In addition to the advisory and rehabilitation service previously provided, intensive pre-loan counselling has proved essential to promote the best use of the increased loans available. The Credit Adviser must, with the applicant, assess the farmer's credit needs, ensure that he is capable of making proper use of the funds available within the limits of the legislation and ensure that the money is expended in an effective manner. It is also his responsibility to appraise the farm unit that will represent security for the loan and to estimate its agricultural productive value under typical operation. Appraisal on this basis has required an intensified training program and the assembly of considerable data relating to gross income, operating costs, etc., pertaining to the various types of farming followed in different parts of Canada.

Arrangements were completed during 1960 for the joint utilization by the Veterans Land Administration and the Farm Credit Corporation of the 197 Farm Credit Advisers and 38 Credit Supervisors employed throughout Canada by both organizations. The work of these officials now relates almost entirely to full-time farming applications and