

firefighters of World War II; Canadian welfare workers of World War II; Canadian transatlantic aircrew of World War II; and Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit of World War II.

Service for at least six months at sea or overseas in the group concerned is the prime requisite for eligibility as to service. VADs in World War I are required to have served on the Continent of Europe or for at least 365 days in Britain prior to the Armistice. A pensioner under Parts I to X of the Act is also eligible. The monthly rates and the maximum total annual income ceilings are identical to those in the War Veterans Allowance Act. At Apr. 30, 1966, there were 1,076 civilians, 247 widows and 10 orphans in receipt of Civilian War Allowances, a total of 1,333 recipients of whom five were residing outside Canada. The 1965-66 liability for all recipients was \$1,799,960.

Veterans' Bureau

The Veterans' Bureau, which is a branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs, assists former members of the Armed Forces and their dependants and former members of the various auxiliary organizations in preparing and presenting claims to the Canadian Pension Commission; it has been in operation for 35 years. The Chief Pensions Advocate, who heads the Bureau at Ottawa, is assisted by pensions advocates, most of whom are lawyers located in the departmental district offices. The pensions advocates appear as counsel for applicants before Appeal Boards of the Commission and, in addition, advise pensioners and applicants upon any provision of the Pension Act or phase of pension law or administration that may have a bearing on pension claims. No charge is made for the services of the Bureau.

During 1965, the Veterans' Bureau submitted 6,795 claims to the Canadian Pension Commission for adjudication, of which 36 p.c. were wholly or partially granted. These included 1,218 claims presented to Appeal Boards of the Commission. During the year, 1,365 straight entitlement claims were submitted to the Commission, based on service in World War I and peacetime, of which 203 were wholly or partially granted; claims based on service in World War II and Korea numbered 3,183, of which 1,083 were wholly or partially granted; and of the 1,029 miscellaneous claims submitted, 610 were wholly or partially granted.

Section 2.—Welfare Services

Welfare services for veterans and, where appropriate, their dependants are provided by the Welfare Services Branch. These include the administration of assigned statutes; the conducting of field work and reporting for other branches of the Department, the Canadian Pension Commission, the War Veterans Allowance Board and Services Benevolent Funds; and the provision of a rehabilitation and welfare program of advice and counselling including referral, where indicated, to other public or private agencies, veterans organizations, etc.

War Service Grants.—War service gratuities payable under the War Service Grants Act to veterans of World War II and the operations to restore peace in Korea are now payable only in cases where delayed application is acceptable. Re-establishment credit payable under the same Act is available up to Oct. 31, 1968. Payment of the credit, except for a balance of \$50 or less, is not made in cash to the veteran but is released on his behalf for specified purposes. Up to the end of 1965 a total of \$315,220,832 had been paid out and unused balances amounted to \$8,637,352. During 1965 the total paid out amounted to \$241,732 made up of \$127,021 for purchases of homes and for repairs and furniture; \$20,735 for purchases of businesses, tools and equipment; and \$93,976 for miscellaneous items such as insurance, special equipment for training, clothing, etc.