

Assistance Fund.—Recipients of benefits under the War Veterans Allowance Act and Part XI of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act living in Canada may be given help from the Assistance Fund if their total income is lower than a stated maximum. Assistance may take the form of a monthly supplement based on shelter, fuel, food, clothing, personal care and specified health costs or of a single award to meet an unusual or emergency need. The number of persons assisted during 1965 was 21,050, the number in receipt of monthly supplements at the end of the year was 15,736 and the Fund expenditures for the year amounted to \$5,489,826; comparable figures for 1964 were 20,513, 15,519 and \$3,758,105, respectively.

Education Assistance to Children.—The Children of War Dead (Education Assistance) Act provides help in the form of allowances and the payment of fees for the post-secondary education of children of those whose deaths have been attributed to military service. Assistance is restricted to children attending, in Canada, educational institutions which require secondary school graduation, matriculation or equivalent standing for admission. These include, in addition to universities and colleges, such facilities as hospital schools of teaching and institutes of technology. From its inception in July 1953 to the end of 1965, expenditures totalled \$5,391,428, of which \$2,779,047 was spent in allowances and \$2,612,381 in fees. By the end of 1965, 3,793 children of Canada's war dead had been approved for training. Of these, 1,429 had successfully completed training—194 had obtained degrees in arts and science, 244 in education, 102 in engineering and applied science, 29 in social work, 21 in medicine, 21 in law, 99 in other university faculties, 367 in nursing, 204 in teaching and 148 in administrative and technological fields. At the same date there were 647 university undergraduates and 233 students in non-university courses receiving assistance.

Veterans Insurance.—The Returned Soldiers Insurance Act (SC 1920, c. 54 as amended) provides eligibility to contract for life insurance with the Federal Government up to a maximum of \$5,000 to any one veteran of World War I. No policies were issued after Aug. 31, 1933. There were 48,319 policies issued during the eight years in which the Act was open amounting to \$109,299,500 and, of these, there were 6,631 in force with a value of \$14,245,209 on Dec. 31, 1965.

The Veterans Insurance Act (RSC 1952, c. 279 as amended) enables veterans following their discharge and widows of those who died during service to contract with the Federal Government for a maximum of \$10,000 life insurance. Veterans with active service in Korea were extended eligibility by virtue of the Veterans Benefit Act 1954. The period of eligibility to apply for this insurance will cease Oct. 31, 1968. To Dec. 31, 1965, 53,287 policies in the amount of \$173,722,000 had been issued and, of these, 28,299 policies with a value of \$90,054,148 were in force.

Rehabilitation and Welfare.—Welfare officers at Departmental District Offices work closely with other branches of the Department, with other public agencies at all levels and with private agencies and organizations in assisting veterans and their dependants to deal with problems of social adjustment, particularly those associated with physical disabilities or the disabilities of increasing age. The latter occur more frequently, of course, as the age of the veteran population increases. Vocational rehabilitation is promoted through training assistance available to disability pensioners and through close collaboration with the federal Department of Manpower and Immigration and provincial rehabilitation and re-training facilities. Sheltered workshops operated at Toronto and Montreal and home assembly work in other centres produce poppies and memorial wreaths and crosses associated with Remembrance Day observances. Finished products are sold to the Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion.