

## 7.—Summary of House Construction under the Veterans' Land Act, as at Dec. 31, 1961

Item	Full-Time Farming	Small Holdings	Com-mercial Fishing	Provincial Lands	Federal Lands	City-Size Lots	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Houses completed (from 1942).....	1,975	22,091	296	1,414	124	3,383	29,283
Houses under construction.....	78	730	3	6	2	341	1,160
Contracts let (work not yet started)...	125	481	8	100	1	2	717
<b>Net Approvals for New Housing..</b>	<b>2,178</b>	<b>23,302</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>3,726</b>	<b>31,160</b>

## Section 4.—Veterans' Bureau

The Veterans' Bureau, which has completed its thirtieth year of operation, is a branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs administered from Head Office in Ottawa by an officer called the Chief Pensions Advocate. He is assisted by Pensions Advocates who are located in all districts in Canada in which offices of the Department are situated, and at the district office in London, England.

The duties of Pensions Advocates, most of whom are lawyers, are to assist former members of the Armed Forces and their dependants, and former members of the various auxiliary organizations such as merchant seamen, firefighters and others, in preparing and presenting pension claims to the Canadian Pension Commission. The Pensions Advocates also appear as counsel for applicants before the Appeal Boards of the Commission and, in addition, they advise pensioners and applicants upon any provision of the Pension Act or phase of pension law or administration that may have a bearing on the applicant's pension claim. No charge is made for the services of the Veterans' Bureau.

During the year ended Dec. 31, 1961, the Veterans' Bureau submitted a total of 6,852 claims to the Canadian Pension Commission for adjudication. This number included 1,400 claims presented to Appeal Boards of the Canadian Pension Commission, of which 603 were wholly or partially granted. These Appeal Board claims were supported by oral evidence provided by 1,573 witnesses, including approximately 704 medical and 869 lay witnesses.

During the same year, the Veterans' Bureau submitted 1,224 straight entitlement claims to the Canadian Pension Commission, based on service rendered in World War I and peacetime, of which 177 were wholly or partially granted. However, with respect to claims based on service in World War II and Korea, out of a total of 3,226 presented, 1,098 were wholly or partially granted. In addition, the Veterans' Bureau submitted 902 miscellaneous claims to the Canadian Pension Commission (these included applications for leave to re-open, following an Appeal Board hearing, claims for higher degree of aggravation, increased assessment, retroactive awards, compassionate pension awards, etc.) of which 552 were wholly or partially granted.

## Section 5.—Veterans Pensions

**Canadian Pension Commission.**—The Canadian Pension Commission is a statutory body charged with the administration of the Pension Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act. The members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor in Council who may also impose upon the Commission duties in respect of any grants in the nature of pensions, etc., made under any statute other than the Pension Act. It reports to Parliament through the Minister of Veterans Affairs.

It is the responsibility of the Commission to adjudicate on claims for injury or disease, resulting in disability or death, incurred during service with the Canadian Navy, Army or Air Force during war or peacetime. The Commission may also supplement, up to Canadian rates, awards of pension to or in respect of Canadians for disability or death suffered as a result of service in the British or Allied Forces during World War I or World War II, or may pay pension at Canadian rates in such cases where the claim has been rejected by the