

small-loan field for serving personnel, an amount of \$50,000 is set aside annually for distress grants. Following unification of the Forces, and because of a variety of legal complications precluding amalgamation of the existing Funds, a fifth, the Canadian Forces Personnel Assistance Fund, was incorporated. Its primary role at the present time is in the field of small low-cost loans for serving personnel enlisting after February 1968. The grant and financial distress loan aspects of this program are expected to take on increasing importance as the years pass. Administration of the two last-named Funds is carried out on contract through the office of the Army Benevolent Fund Board.

6.7.2.2 Treatment services

The Treatment Services Branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs provides medical and dental services for entitled veterans throughout Canada as well as for members of the Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the wards of other governments or departments at the request and expense of the authorities concerned. Prosthetic services are provided to entitled veterans by the Department of National Health and Welfare but paid for by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). The Branch provides examination and treatment for pensionable disabilities and provides treatment to war veterans allowance recipients (but not to their dependents) and veterans whose service and financial circumstances render them eligible for free treatment or at a cost adjusted to their ability to pay. If a bed is available, any veteran may receive treatment in a departmental hospital on a guarantee of payment of the cost of hospitalization. The pensioner receives treatment for his pensionable disabilities regardless of his place of residence but service to other veterans is available in Canada only. Subject to the approval of the Department, an eligible veteran may also obtain treatment at the expense of the Department in an outside hospital from a doctor of his choice. Domiciliary care may be provided to eligible veterans in departmental facilities where the need for active or chronic treatment is sufficiently light, provided that excess beds are available.

Under the federal-provincial hospital insurance program, DVA hospitals are recognized for the provision of insured services to veterans. Where treatment is given for a non-pensioned condition at a DVA hospital to a veteran, or elsewhere to a veteran eligible under the veterans treatment regulations, the hospitalization is an insured service under the federal-provincial hospital insurance program and his medical care is an insured service under the federal-provincial medical care insurance program. The Department pays premiums where required on behalf of veterans who are eligible for war veterans allowance.

Hospital facilities. Treatment is provided in eight active treatment hospitals located at Halifax, NS; Montreal and Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.; London, Ont.; Winnipeg, Man.; Calgary, Alta.; and Vancouver and Victoria, BC; and in three domiciliary care homes at Ottawa, Ont., Saskatoon, Sask. and Edmonton, Alta. The rated bed capacity of these institutions at December 31, 1973 was 5,881 beds. It should also be noted that in Ottawa both acute and chronic cases requiring definitive treatment are admitted to the National Defence Medical Centre. A veterans pavilion of 82 beds is located at St. John's General Hospital, St. John's, Nfld., 1,200 beds are available at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, 150 beds at the Centre Hospitalier de l'Université Laval in Quebec and 200 beds at West Saint John Community Hospital in Saint John, NB, for the priority use of veterans, as well as some 766 beds in community hospitals located in St. John's, Nfld., Charlottetown, PEI, Kingston and Thunder Bay, Ont., Regina and Saskatoon, Sask. and Edmonton, Alta.

Medical staff and training programs. The active and consulting medical staffs of departmental hospitals are usually private practitioners and specialists who also hold teaching appointments on the medical faculties of local universities. Their appointment and selection is normally recommended by the Deans of Medicine of the universities with which the departmental hospitals are affiliated. This affiliation results in approval by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for postgraduate teaching in resident teaching programs of non-core years in medicine, surgery, psychiatry and other specialties. Some departmental hospitals are also affiliated with technical schools and act as hospital teaching units in technical school programs for paramedical sciences such as laboratory and radiology technicians. In addition, residency training programs are given in psychology, dietetics, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, and in the medical social services at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. A postgraduate residency program in hospital pharmacology and pharmacy methodology is con-