

THE EXECUTIVE AND GOVERNING BODIES
OF
THE LAST POST FUND, OF CANADA

The Last Post Imperial Naval & Military Contingency Fund was founded as a Provincial Organization in Montreal in April 1909, incorporated under the Quebec Provincial Charities Act in June of the same year, given special powers under Article 4884 of the Quebec Provincial Anatomy Act in June 1910, and re-organized and incorporated under the Dominion Companies Act in June 1921. In 1922 it was recognized by the Federal Government through a small grant applicable to each and every Province, conditional upon the dominion-wide expansion and operation of the Fund's functions, and in the latter part of 1923 it was recognized by the City of its inception by the granting of a measure of assistance locally. These latter marks of recognition were not obtained without years of strenuous effort and indisputable evidence of the utility of the Fund's purpose, and they by no means put the organization beyond the need of public financial support.

An Organization like a building must have a solid foundation to make it secure for the future, and as the Society depends in the main on public support for its finances, it was the aim of its founders to create public confidence in its governing bodies, by the appointment of Officers whose social position and standing in the community would be a guarantee of integrity, and to that end at the very outset, three gentlemen in the persons of :- Rev. (Col.) J.M. Almond C.B.E., C.M.G. - Captain J.T. Walsh R.N.R. - and Brig-Gen. Lawrence Buchan G.O.C. Mil. Dist. No. 4. were appointed as permanent Charter Trustees, with supreme power by a majority vote of their own number to "veto any finance or legislation considered by them detrimental to the objects for which the Corporation exists". As already stated, these gentlemen were appointed in permanency, their positions only becoming vacant through resignation or death, thus serving to perpetuate the original policy of the Society, inspire public confidence, and act as a Supreme Board of Appeal in case of necessity.

There was also under the Provincial era, an Executive Committee of 15 elected annually from the membership for the administration of the Fund's affairs, the Executive Officers of which were also elected by the Members.

Under the national re-organization in 1921 the Charter Trustees retained their original powers and functions with the additional power to appoint local Trustees and grant Sub-Charter s to the respective Provinces of the Dominion. *

Our Dominion Charter having been granted under the laws of the Dominion Companies Act of Canada, the members of the Fund are equivalent to Shareholders in a Company, and have the right only to elect the Directors (15 in number) which Directors elect their own Executive Officers and constitute the various Governing bodies of the Society.

The Governing Bodies at Headquarters in the City of Montreal, are actually four in number, though in reality and composition only two, viz:-

1. The Dominion Council, and Trustees
2. The Dominion Executive-Quebec Provincial, Headquarters

The former is for the purpose of dealing with all matters of major importance and legislation affecting the national-wide scope of the Fund, and except for the annual meeting (which is held simultaneously with the Headquarters Executive) the Council is only convened when business requires it, and at the call of the President. The latter's functions are to deal with routine work of both the Dominion and Quebec Provincial ~~Administration~~ administration, and meets regularly once a month, its personnel being composed of the 15 Directors elected at Headquarters irrespective of whether they are members of the Dominion Council also or not. The composition of the personnel of the Dominion Council, is eight elected from the Province of Quebec, and one from each of the other respective Provinces, except Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island who elect one jointly between them, thus the Council in numbers are fifteen.

* Dominion Charter Association for charitable purposes without capital stock.