

6. That the administration might consist of the following:—

- (a) A Dominion Board of Trustees consisting of the Chief Justice of Canada; the Auditor-General of Canada; the Governor of the Bank of Canada; the Minister of Pensions and National Health, and an elected President of a selected veteran organization; with provision for secretarial assistance.
- (b) A Dominion Advisory Committee consisting of ex-service men representative of the three services and the Director of the Veterans' Welfare Division, Department of Pensions and National Health, to assist the Board of Trustees in framing policies.
- (c) A District Advisory Committee, in each administrative area served by the Department of Pensions and National Health, consisting of three members, two of whom should be service men of the present war with satisfactory service records, to report to the Dominion Advisory Committee.
- (d) That the Secretary of the District Advisory Committee in each case be the District Veterans' Welfare Officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health who, in addition to ordinary secretarial duties, will be responsible for reporting on investigation of applications and the carrying out of the policies of the Board of Trustees.
- (e) Since the Board of Trustees will be responsible for the investment and custodianship of funds, it may be convenient for them to arrange for disbursements to take place through the usual machinery, i.e., the Treasury Officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health with proper records being maintained in the Veterans' Welfare Division.
- (f) That investment of these funds should be in Dominion Government securities.

The primary purpose of the fund should be to encourage the civil re-establishment of ex-service men, and in view of past experience the Board of Trustees might consider disbursing a greater proportion of the funds in the immediate post-war years. Perhaps some form of terminable annuity could be used to amortize the amounts to be distributed so that the maximum amount could be made available in a limited period, exhausting the fund at a definite date. Since conditions in Canada have materially changed since the last war, owing to the acceptance of responsibility by public bodies for those in distress or unemployed, there is less need for conservation of large funds for indeterminate emergencies after a decade in respect of a specific group of the population.

It is suggested that the aim should be to consolidate all funds available for the welfare of ex-service men under one Dominion administration, as indicated.

It has been noted that in the past there has been some little difficulty in securing the full income of specific personal bequests made with a view to assist ex-service men. Sometimes wills are drawn in such a way as to involve those responsible for administration of such funds in costs of litigation which reduce the amount of the bequests concerned. It is suggested that some form of simple bequest formula could be devised which would enable testators to bequeath funds to the Board of Trustees to be used for the purposes designated, as set out by their legislative authority.

Objects

The objects to which the fund might be devoted, after examination of the many and varied objects suggested in connection with the use of Canteen Funds of the last war, should be clearly though generally stated, as follows:

1. For the assistance of distress of ex-service men or of their families by loan or grant where adequate assistance is not available from Government or other sources.