

to retirement, or on completion of thirty-five years of contributory service, which is the maximum contributory period allowed. Together with the record of contributions up to December 31st, 1952, which is now maintained in the Superannuation branch, this will cover an employee's entire career.

This mathematical check, I may say, will be carried out by means of a comparison of the salaries paid to a contributor, as certified by the various paying offices, with the contributions in respect of such salaries and with a reconciliation sheet that will be prepared in the paying offices showing the total superannuation contributions actually reserved from salary. I may say that this procedure is in line with that suggested by the Auditor General in his report for 1964-65, although the technique adopted differs slightly from that proposed by him.

The third area is in regard to contributions of Crown corporation employees and revenue and semi-staff postmasters. For the employees of Crown corporations, who are not paid through my Treasury Offices, a new system of reporting was instituted in 1963-64, which will ensure that contributions are reconciled. The corporations concerned have been requested to submit complete reports for those years in which details of contributions are lacking. Current service contributions will be verified by my Central Services Branch and contributions in respect of elective service by the Superannuation Branch. This is being done just as rapidly as the data is received from the Crown corporations.

In regard to contributions on behalf of revenue and semi-staff postmasters, the Treasury Office servicing the Post Office Department, in co-operation with the department which pays the employees, and with the Superannuation branch, has reconciled all past contributions for these contributors. During 1965, the Chief Treasury Officer for the Post Office Department completed the reconciliation of current contributions for all such employees for the period from January 1st, 1953 to December 31st, 1963, and instituted an annual reconciliation program on a current basis for the year 1964 and thereafter. On completion, all reviewed accounts were transmitted to the Superannuation branch and the special audit section has verified current contributions for the years prior to January 1, 1953, as well as all contributions for elective service. This undertaking, which involved a reconciliation of contributions for nearly 4,000 individuals, was completed in April of this year.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that this outline will give the Committee some indication of the steps that have been taken to improve the general administration of the superannuation branch, and correct the specific situations described by the Auditor General in his report.

When I assumed responsibility for the administration of the branch I recognized that the situation, which had developed over many years, was not one that could be remedied overnight. It was clear that long range measures must be taken, and, indeed, in his evidence before this Committee in December 1963, Mr. Bryce indicated that a minimum period of three years was required.

In his reports since my office took over the responsibility for the administration of the Superannuation branch, the Auditor General has noted an improvement. He is not yet satisfied, nor am I, but I have every confidence that