

maintains a programme of staff training. Training divisions are also established at regional offices and these staff officers give assistance to local offices in the training of staff.

I would now refer you to the personnel branch and you will note that one of the divisions is an establishment review division. This division continuously reviews the establishment of the commission's offices and once each year does a complete review with the Civil Service Commission officials. The rating division is responsible for the rating programme which this commission carries on. Each employee is formally interviewed once a year for the purpose of informing him of his progress during that year and offering suggestions as to how he may improve his over-all performance.

Other necessary functions performed at head office are also shown on this chart.

The inspection branch at head office has a group of highly trained personnel who visit each local office at least every two years for the purpose of making a complete inspection of the office and reporting to the executive director on the quality of work being done and the efficiency with which the office is operating.

The enforcement branch endeavours to prevent fraud in the payment of benefits, working through regional enforcement officers who, in turn, have a field staff of investigators. These field investigators work independently of local office managers. They make investigations at the request of local office staff if fraud is suspected. They also make a check in selected areas of cases picked at random from claim files in the local office. In the fiscal year ending March 31st, they completed over 60,000 investigations.

The public relations branch at head office studies the publicity which the commission is receiving in the field and generally supervises the programme for the commission.

The legal branch officials serve as legal advisers to the commission and to other officials. The officers of this branch prepare any necessary legislation and, in addition, draft the regulations. These officials represent the commission at oral hearings before the umpire and generally provide the commission with whatever legal counsel is necessary.

In the report which I have given, I have attempted to give you a general picture of our organization and in general terms the work which we do.

No report of this commission would be complete without stating that the ability of the commission to meet the seasonal loads which it regularly encounters is due to our very fine field staff. Our staff has worked overtime when called upon to do so. It has, in many instances, performed meritorious service beyond that normally required in giving the public the service it has the right to expect. I believe that the commission has been able to keep its budget within its present limits largely because of the co-operation which it has always received from its staff.

Finally I believe that the appropriations which this commission has requested to carry on its operations are fair and reasonable.

Mr. Chairman, I have with me this morning Mr. W. K. Rutherford, director, administrative services; W. Thomson, director, employment branch, and J. McGregor, director, insurance branch.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions gentlemen?

Mr. CARON: What was the amount of the fund in May, 1957?

Mr. J. MCGREGOR (*Director, Insurance Branch, Department of Labour*): The fund, at the end of 1957 stood at \$846,819,435.

Mr. CARON: What did the fund stand at in May, 1958?

Mr. MCGREGOR: The fund in May, 1958, stood at \$662,056,157.