

not each secure the same amount. As they came in to this work, some of the organizations found themselves particularly well qualified to carry it on, while others were not so well qualified. In any event the important thing was that they were there, and were ready and willing and reasonably able to carry on. We had nothing else which could have done the job at that time.

The next year the decision was taken that the drives for funds would be consolidated into one, and that was done. In the meantime the work went on steadily. Let me complete the matter of finances. In 1942 the decision was taken that the funds for these services would be provided from the treasury. Controlling these funds and the expenditure of them in Canada is the war services budget committee. I know nothing of the situation in Canada, but I do want to mention a little about the work of these organizations in England because it has been of such great importance to us there. Without this work, particularly during the last year and a half, I just do not know how we would have maintained the morale of our men at the high level at which it now stands.

The four organizations each has a senior representative in London. They work in cooperation with the three services, the army, the navy and the air force. I shall speak only about the army because that is what I know about, but in any event the services available to the army are available also to the other services. The control in England is this: on the one hand there are the senior representatives of the four organizations; there are the heads of the forces, and then, as a third party, there is the overseas executive committee of the budget committee in Canada which controls the finances.

In passing I want to say just a word about that committee. It was set up quite recently, and it consists of five prominent Canadians who live in London, with Sir Edward Peacock as the chairman. We have found that the existence of that committee has solved a great many of our problems. It has speeded up the provision of services to the men and, what is most important, Sir Edward Peacock has the confidence of the organizations as well as the confidence of the services. While he and his committee scrutinize expenditures most carefully, their first concern is to provide essential services to the troops.

The work overseas of the auxiliary services is divided into two main classifications. The first classification, by far the most important, is that in regard to the services to the troops in the units in the field. This is carried on by means of auxiliary service supervisors who

are trained personnel provided by the organizations to do this work. They are allocated to the troops in the field on the basis of one supervisor for each 800 men. The large units have their own supervisor, but in the case of the smaller units, two or three may be served by one supervisor.

Because of the developments over the past three years the four organizations have now reached the point where each is providing the same measure of service. Each organization looks after approximately one-fourth of the troops overseas, and each has about the same number of supervisors. These supervisors are allocated to the units in accordance with our plan, and this is the kind of service they provide: Each of them has a car, and he may have one or two or three military helpers. He has a moving-picture outfit; he may have a canteen; he has a library, and he spends his time looking after the welfare of the troops, putting on picture shows in the evenings, organizing concert parties, sing-songs and games of all kinds. It is most important work, and it is of the utmost value at the present time because so many of our troops are spread around the countryside of England miles away, in many instances, from the big centres.

In addition, with the field formations, we have mobile canteens, which are under the charge of the supervisors. While these mobile canteens are not so necessary now, they will be of great value when the troops become engaged in active operations and they will then be used to provide essential services for the troops.

The organizations also provide recreation centres in troop areas. They provide leave hostels in London and elsewhere. At the present time in Canadian hostels in London there are some 2,800 beds, and they are full most of the time; indeed, every week-end there is an overflow of from one to two thousand who have to be taken care of in accommodation provided from British sources.

Each organization has also taken on a special project. The Y.M.C.A. look after a large share of the recreation centres. They also look after the major sports events for the whole army. Their experts advise the army on sports matters.

The Canadian Legion, in addition to having education as one of its projects, looks after the organization of concert parties. It trains and equips them. We have four soldier concert parties in operation at the present time. In addition, the legion provides entertainment, by professional performers who go around and visit the troops week after week.