

3. *Disablement Fund.*

The Disablement Fund had its inception in the year 1915, at which time money was being subscribed by public spirited citizens to the Government for the purchase of machine guns, which it had been claimed, through an erroneous newspaper report, were not being supplied to the Canadian Troops owing to lack of money.

Sir James Lougheed, then President of the Military Hospitals Commission and Acting Minister of Militia and Defence, authorized the late Mr. E. H. Scammell, then Secretary of the Military Hospitals Commission, to endeavour to arrange to have at least a part of the subscriptions then being raised diverted to create a fund which might be used to assist disabled members of the Canadian Forces. Sir James Lougheed authorized Mr. Scammell to administer any moneys thus obtained.

The largest subscription to the fund was made by Sir James Carruthers, of Montreal, amounting to \$100,000. Mr. Carruthers, however later requested that \$35,000 should be transferred to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, which action was taken, thus reducing the amount of his subscription to \$65,000.

Mr. Scammell continued to act as sole Trustee without remuneration, until the 4th March, 1932, when by Order in Council P.C. 438, Lt.-Col. J. L. Melville, M.C., Director of Orthopaedic and Vetcraft, and Major A. M. Wright, Chief Administrative Assistant, were appointed to administer the fund under the chairmanship of Mr. E. H. Scammell, Secretary of the Department.

On the appointment of Lt.-Col. J. L. Melville to the War Veterans' Allowance Board, Lt.-Col. G. S. Macfarlane, M.C., V.D., was appointed a member of the Committee (Order in Council P.C. 1387), June 21, 1938.

Following the death of Mr. Scammell, Major A. M. Wright was appointed Chairman and Major C. A. Bell, Chief of Orthopaedic and Vetcraft, was appointed Member (Order in Council P.C. 2591, October 18, 1938).

REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISABLEMENT FUND

Pursuant to the provisions of Order in Council P.C. 438, dated the 4th March, 1932, the undersigned hereby approves the following regulations for the administration of the Disablement Fund.

November 19, 1935.

Minister of Pensions and National Health.

1. The Disablement Fund shall be administered by a Committee of three officials of the Department of Pensions and National Health.

2. The Disablement Fund shall be utilized entirely at the discretion of the Committee to make loans or grants to ex-soldiers, or to their dependents, or to others when such loans or grants appear to be necessary and more particularly to accomplish the following:—

- (1) To tide over a difficult situation or to meet an emergency.
- (2) To provide comforts for those who are receiving institutional treatment for tuberculosis at public expense other than at the expense of the Department.
- (3) To meet the cost of transportation when deemed necessary.
- (4) To assist in paying overdue taxes, mortgage interest, overdue mortgage principal or rent.
- (5) To meet other domestic emergencies when an outlay is required to prevent hardship falling on an ex-soldier or his dependents.