

which assure each Province getting its proportionate share of it on the basis of the total of enlistments and discharges in the respective Provinces bulked and halved, and which works out as follows, from figures supplied the Last Post Fund by the government, viz:- British Columbia 10% Alberta 7% Saskatchewan 6% Manitoba 11% Ontario 42% Quebec 13% New Brunswick 4% Nova Scotia & Prince Edward (combined) 7%.

In order to enable the Society to expand and properly organize its system Dominion-wide, it was decided by Order-in-Council that for the first year ~~MMMM~~, 50% of the Grant should be earmarked for that purpose and any unexpended balance returned to the Dominion Consolidated Revenue Fund. The Fund is now represented by Provincial Headquarters in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, in addition to Quebec, while there are also district Branches in Ontario and Alberta. The Maritime Provinces are temporarily being administered through direct personal representation, and in case of necessity the organization is such that a case can be taken care of in any part of the Dominion, direct from Dominion Headquarters at Montreal.

It can be readily understood that with such an important organization effectively covering the whole Dominion a permanent Executive of some kind is essential to its continued existence. That Executive 'Staff' consists of a Dominion Organizing Secretary whose salary is divided between the Dominion, and Quebec Provincial, Headquarters.

The employment or remuneration of any Provincial or Branch Secretary, where it is not done in an Honorary capacity, is a matter for local adjustment from the Branch funds.

In 1923 \$1500 has been set aside for Headquarters administration \$1200 of which has been received by the Fund, and \$300 placed in suspense, the balance of \$8500.00 being distributed for application in the respective provinces on the percentages already described.

Another condition of the Grant, is that audited financial Reports be rendered the Department of Soldiers Civil Re-establishment by the Last Post Fund at the call of that Department, and the Society must show by its returns that on the basis of \$100 per capita it has exceeded in expenditure for funerals the total amount of the Grant for the year.

As an example, for the first year under government assistance - six months only of which could really be taken into consideration - the Fund had \$5000.00 to apply to \$7500.00 expenditure for funerals, not administration, from which it is readily seen that supplementation is necessary.

The government Grant in its entirety only represents the cost of 100 interments, while experience has already shewn that in the two provinces of Quebec and Ontario alone in 1921 there were that many.

The cost of dealing with cases has by a combination of several years experience and systematization been reduced to the minimum, consistent with that which is adequate and essential - not unnecessarily lavish - but reverently respectful, and every grave is marked with a Canadian Granite Marker 1ft. 4 in. by 10 in. by 6 in. polished on the surface and inscribed with the rank, name, regiment, and age of deceased.

All work is done for the fund by Contract and in accordance with its specification. In the absence of National Military Cemeteries interments are made in the Last Post Fund, or Civic Cemetery Reservations where they exist, and elsewhere, individual graves with perpetual care are purchased.

Very complete records of every case are filed locally and Quarterly Returns made to Dominion Headquarters of the Fund, from which in turn distant relatives are communicated with and reports transmitted to the Military Records Office at Ottawa, which facilitates the completion of their mortality records and cooperates.

The Last Post Fund is not a Charity Organization, it was specifically conceived to defeat that stigma being applied to an honourably discharged warrior in the last extremity of death, neither is it a "Veteran" Organization, for it owes its existence to the inability of such Organizations to take care of those outside of their membership, it is distinctly a patriotic organization, acting as a "Vigilance Committee" in the final contingency of death amongst our ex-warriors and to prevent the ingratitude of abandonment through friendlessness and indigency.