

GR-1315
British Columbia
Provincial Secretary
Returned Soldiers' Aid Commission Records
Microfilm (neg) 1919-1925 6 reels

The Returned Soldiers' Aid Commission (RSAC) developed from the Provincial Returned Soldiers Commission of British Columbia. The latter was formed by Order-in-Council on 29 November 1915 to deal with the provision of farm lands for settlement by returned soldiers and sailors, the provision of academic, technical, and agricultural training for returned men, the establishment of province-wide bureaux to assist veterans seeking civilian employment, and the 'provision of a supply farm for use in conjunction with the Military Convalescent Hospital at Esquimalt, B.C. In 1919 this voluntary organization was reorganized as the British Columbia Returned Soldiers' Aid Commission, a government agency established by the Department of the Provincial Secretary. Until the RSAC was closed in 1929, it provided aid to veterans and aid to dependents of those who gave their lives during the Great War of 1914-1918.

The RSAC papers consisted principally of three large files:

"25F" series - files pertaining to veterans of the Canadian armed forces

"35I" series - files dealing with veterans of the Imperial armed forces resident in British Columbia

"50" series - files pertaining to local branches of the Provincial Returned Soldiers' Commission and other veterans' associations

The papers also include records pertaining to War Services Gratuity payments, account books, cancelled cheques, reports, and correspondence concerning veterans' training, employment, and land settlement schemes.*

The RSAC papers were microfilmed by the Provincial Secretary's Department in 1956. The microfilms were transferred from the Central Microfilm Bureau to the Provincial Archives of British Columbia in 1983.

* Originally, the RSAC papers also included documents which were designated "R" series files. These files have yet to be identified. Although a card index to the files was included when the papers were filmed in 1956, the documents themselves appear to have been destroyed.

Reel No.	Contents
B 2512	Files "25F" (1) - "25F" (752)
B 2513	Files "25F" (753) - "25F" (1231); "25F (1232) - "23F" (1337)
B 2514	Files "35I" (1) - "35I" (242); Series "50" correspondence: files E.2 - E.7; F.I. - F.3; Series "50 correspondence: files F.3A- G.83
B 2515	Account books; payments to Canadian and Imperial veterans; payments to veterans' next of kin; etc.; General account ledger; cancelled cheques (#1-100618);
B 2516	"25F" card index; "35I" card index. Unidentified "R" card index (A - M) [Documents pertinent to this index were not filmed]
B 2517	Committee reports; Military Hospitals' Commission reports; miscellaneous memoranda, correspondence, pamphlets, and notes.