

"The total number of enrollees more than 50 years ago was 41,935," the Department stated further, "and if it were necessary to trace all descendants and verify all deaths the administrative job would be tremendous. By using the 1907 roll and applying the limitations in the bill, the job will be less difficult. It will still, however, be a task of sizable proportions and may require several months after enactment of the bill before payments to individual beneficiaries can be made."

The Department pointed out that a full per capita share will be something less than \$280, and that many shares of heirs and legatees will be so small that they should revert to the Cherokee Tribe. A per capita distribution is being recommended only because of the dispersion of the Cherokee people and the lack of any tribal economic base in which to invest the funds for development purposes.

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