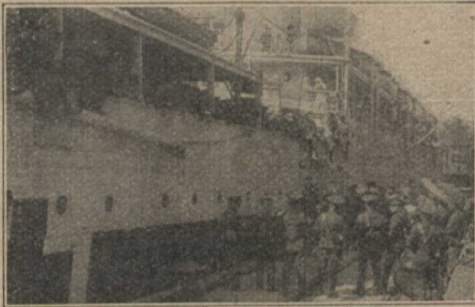


MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION-CANADA

How Soldiers are Welcomed on Their Return to Canada

Canadian hospital ships are bringing about 2000 men a month back to Canada and the rate is ever increasing. To receive them the Military Hospitals Commission has equipped reception and Clearing Depots at the three ports of arrival, Halifax, St. John and Quebec. At Halifax the Red Cross ships, formerly palatial



Band playing on arrival at Halifax of hospital ship bearing wounded.

liners, berth alongside Pier 2, on which stands a reception hospital of over 600 beds. Soldiers destined for the Maritime Provinces and stretcher cases for all Canada are cleared through this institution and sent to their home provinces.

Train runs alongside ship

Men whose homes are in Quebec and provinces west board a special train on the pier within fifty feet of the ship's side. They are conveyed to Quebec City where the principal clearing depot, capable of accommodating 2000 men, is located.

Ride in Hospital cars

Men confined to bed are examined by medical boards at the Halifax Depot and, without any stop-over, are sent to suitable institutions as near their home towns as possible. Well equipped hospitals on wheels are assigned for their use. Cots are built in and wide double doors permit stretchers to be passed through the sides of the cars without discomfort to the injured ones.

Doctors and nurses are in charge and a special dispensary and diet kitchen are provided so that no attention may be lacking.

Social life provided for

The up-patients are cleared through the discharge depot at a rate of over 100 a day. Western men are despatched first, in order that all may reach home at about the same time. Y. M. C. A. social workers retained by the M. H. C. make the brief stay at Quebec one of the bright spots in the military experience of Canada's soldiers. The institution is commodious and comfortable and has ample recreation space. Entertainments are given every night and the Commission has two moving picture machines in regular use.

Quick service at meals

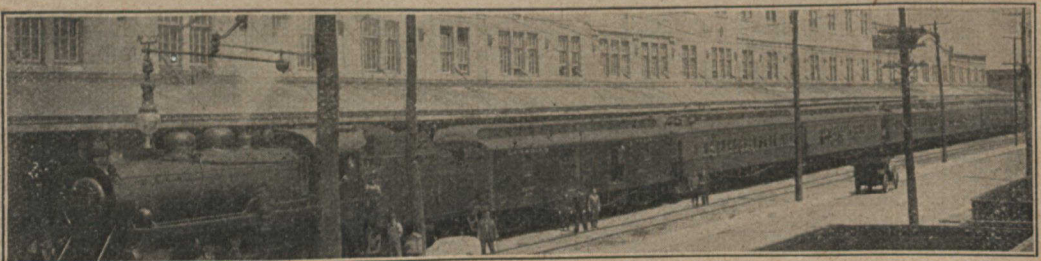
Suitable wards are set apart for tuberculous cases, shell shock men, and any incidental infectious diseases which may occur. The dietary department has a record of having served 6000 meals in one day. A highly organized double cafeteria which serves 600 men in less than 15 minutes does this work. Separate



Newly returned soldiers waiting to be "boarded" in discharge depot, Quebec.

kitchens prepare the food for patients on special diet.

At the discharge depot every soldier appears before one of the several medical boards, which recommends his future treatment. Those who are ready for discharge at once are conveyed to any point in Canada they wish. A clerical staff also prepares a digest of important information about the man's general history and condition to be forwarded to the institution to which he is sent for treatment.



M. H. C. troop train loaded with returned soldiers about to leave Quebec for points west.