

adopted by France for the proper return of disabled members of her armed forces to civilian life. There is ground for hoping that, in Great Britain, the recently established Ministry of Pensions may fulfil a similar purpose.

This discussion of "The Problem of the Disabled Soldier" deals only with the rehabilitation of personal detriments incurred by soldiers and sailors during their service. A short experience, or a little thought, will show that disabled men often suffer from hardships existing for us all, soldiers and civilians alike; some of these are lack of education, illness, sudden death. When disabled soldiers and sailors, or their dependents, are affected by misfortunes such as these—unconnected with their military or naval service—are they to receive public assistance? If assistance is rendered them it should be clearly understood that the aid is given, not as a debt owed by the State—the rehabilitation of men disabled by military service *is owed* to them—but that it is given as a reward, as a mark of public appreciation for meritorious service. (It cannot be too clearly understood that Canada's obligation to the disabled members of her forces has been met when all detriments resulting from their service have wholly been made good to them.) Hardships, consequent upon existence or inadequacies of our social system, to which we are all liable, become striking when they affect disabled soldiers and sailors. If soldiers and sailors affected by such hardships are to be aided from public resources, it should be clear that the aid is given as a gift and not as a benefit to which military service has created a right. If that distinction is maintained, it may become possible later to extend to all of our citizens proper methods of dealing with hardships adequately met for the first time when they affected our disabled men.

A constant source of hardship, often made evident by the war, is the lack of provision, under our social system, for the dependents of men who are no longer able to supply support when they become inactive through vice, sickness or imprisonment. To-day, if a civilian becomes insane from the after-effects of venereal disease, or if he is a chronic