

PLANNING ORGANIZATION

As Canada's parliamentary committees to deal with post-war matters swung into action during March, the framework of official committees concerned with post-war reconstruction was completed, at least for the time being.

Such groups fall chiefly in two classes:

A. Parliamentary:

- (1) Select House of Commons committee on reconstruction and re-establishment.
- (2) Select House of Commons committee on social security.
- (3) Special Senate committee on post-war conditions.

B. Advisory:

- (1) Advisory committee on demobilization and rehabilitation.
- (2) Advisory committee on reconstruction.
- (3) Advisory committee on economic policy.
- (4) Advisory committee on health insurance.

In addition, the Canadian section of the joint Canada-United States economic committees acts in an advisory capacity on several matters, including post-war planning.

The House Committee on reconstruction and re-establishment comprises 35 members and was set up on March 2. Its duties are to study and report on the general problems of reconstruction and re-establishment which may arise at the end of the war and all questions pertaining to them. A similar committee functioned at the previous session of the Commons.

The House committee on social security, consisting of 41 members, was named on March 5. It is to examine and report on a national plan of social insurance which will constitute a charter of social security for the whole of Canada. To that end it has five fields of study: Existing social insurance legislation of the Dominion and provinces; social insurance policies of other countries; the most practicable measures of social insurance for Canada, including health insurance, and the steps which will be required to effect their inclusion in a national plan; the constitutional and financial adjustments which will be required for the achievement of a nationwide plan of social security; other related matters.

At the first meeting of each of these House committees a statement was made by Pensions Minister Mackenzie, who is also chairman of the cabinet sub-committee on demobilization and re-establishment. Also the report on social security for Canada by Dr. Leonard G. Marsh, research adviser to the advisory committee on reconstruction, was tabled. It is being considered by the House Committee on Social Security.

The Senate committee which is to consider and report on matters arising out of post-war conditions has 38 members. It is to deal particularly with problems of reconstruction and re-establishment and a national scheme of social and health insurance.

Formerly the cabinet sub-committee on demobilization and re-establishment had two advisory committees. Now it has only one, the advisory committee on demobilization and rehabilitation, which consists of both civilian and military officials of the government and is headed by Brig.-Gen. H.F. McDonald, chairman