

1. In respect of wounded and disabled men:—

- (a) Hospital care and treatment,
- (b) Functional restoration and artificial limbs,
- (c) Vocational training and re-education,
- (d) Casualties' pay and allowances in Canada,
- (e) Soldiers' homes,
- (f) Co-operation with provincial employment bureaux,
- (g) Any relief or disablement fund which may be found necessary.

2. In respect of fit men:—

Co-operation with the Military authorities, with Provincial Governments and other agencies upon all matters affecting their return to civil life.

3. Supervision of voluntary organizations of and on behalf of returned soldiers.

The governmental department herein above described might be continued during the war and until the end of the Session of Parliament held next after the war, or if Parliament is sitting when the war ends, then until the end of such Session of Parliament. It is further suggested by the same authorities that an office of the Returned Soldiers' Department be opened within each Military District in Canada, which may serve as an information bureau and clearing house in respect of all questions which may arise concerning the treatment and care of returned soldiers; that the funds required for the successful operation of all the activities under the Returned Soldiers' Department, and relief work which may from time to time become necessary, be defrayed out of the federal treasury; that all appeals and collections for patriotic purposes, soldiers' relief, and similar objects, be controlled by the Returned Soldiers' Department, and that unauthorized collections be prohibited by law.

Your Committee, unable to reconcile these two divergent views in such a manner as to secure agreement, is reluctantly compelled to leave the question of the control of the agencies for the care and treatment of returned soldiers without a recommendation on its part, having endeavoured in the previous paragraphs to state, with fairness to both contentions, the arguments in support of each view.

2. VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND RE-EDUCATION UNDER THE MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION.

The matter of vocational training and the re-education of returned soldiers has been taken up with great attention to detail by the Hospitals Commission. The whole subject has been placed under the charge of Mr. T. B. Kidner, formerly at the head of Technical Training in the schools of Calgary, who also had experience in similar institutions in England, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He has chosen to assist him in the various Districts of Canada competent educational officials who have also been men of wide experience and some of whom are devoting their whole time to this work. Mr. Kidner has studied the experience of France and Britain and has improved upon their methods inasmuch as he has systematized under one authority all this work, which has been done in these other countries by various unconnected, inexperienced and unco-ordinated though patriotic, organizations. This has led to uniformity and an absence of overlapping in the work here, and, although the work of the Commission in this field has been of short duration, the progress attending it has been such as commends itself to this Committee.

The Commission apparently has three objects in view in their system of training and re-education. In the first place, they have learned that the life of idleness usually prevailing in a convalescent home for soldiers has a bad influence upon the inmates, both physically and morally, and they are, therefore, giving them vocational training, not only to make the men better physically, but also in order to keep them occupied and out of mischief, and for the further reason that it has a great therapeutic value and assists the men materially in their recovery. Their second object is to improve the men's elementary education, and, in addition, to make them more competent to carry