

The Chairman stated that the Soldiers' Aid Commission had already 143 Branches, and it was the desire of the Commission to form a local Branch in all municipalities where more than five soldiers had already returned and the Commission wished to co-operate with all the agencies in the Province in the work of caring for the returned soldier.

The Commission was formed after a conference of Provincial Premiers, with the Prime Minister of Canada, for the purpose of taking care of and securing employment for discharged soldiers. *In the matter of vocational training* the Province had undertaken the supervision of the re-education of soldiers who had been so disabled that they could not return to their former occupations, and the various educational institutions in the Province had been placed at the disposal of the Commission.

The Chairman stated that the Invalided Soldiers' Commission, a Branch of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, of which the Chairman of each Provincial Soldiers' Aid Commission was an *ex-officio* member, was organized to take care of soldiers coming under the following heads:—

1. Tubercular.
2. Insane.
3. Those requiring a lengthy period of hospital treatment and who would afterwards require Vocational Training.

For those outside of these three classes the Department of Militia and Defence are responsible.

The Invalided Soldiers' Commission to a certain extent look after the employment for those who have received Vocational Training, but with the large number of men returning from overseas the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment had decided to invite the co-operation of the Provincial Labour Bureaus and Soldiers' Aid Commissions, the preference, as far as possible, to be given to the returned soldier when applying to the Labour Bureau for employment.

The Chairman closed his remarks with an expression of his pleasure at the splendid response to his invitation, and felt sure that the Commission would have, in the greatest measure, the co-operation of the Fraternal Societies of the Province.

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Dr. W. H. Hunter, Ind. Order of Foresters, stated that the full attendance at the meeting was, in his opinion, evidence that the fraternal organizations would like to take their full share of the work, with any other agency that had the care of the returned soldier in hand; further, that there was too much machinery in war work and, if we could consolidate, the fraternal organizations could place at the disposal of the local Branches of the Soldiers' Aid Commission a very efficient service.

Dr. Hunter stated that the Commission should take immediate steps to give the Commission the fullest publicity in every way possible.

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Major J. I. Hartt, M.P.P., Grand Master I.O.L., stated that he was not acquainted with the work of the Soldiers' Aid Commission, having just recently returned from overseas, but, so far as his organization was concerned, he could promise the closest co-operation of his Order with the Soldiers' Aid Commission.