

MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION-CANADA

No Charges on Charity Among Canada's Veterans is Aim of Vocational Training Branch

Work is plentiful in Canada now, even for men partially disabled. Because of the present acuteness of public sympathy for those who have made great sacrifices in the common cause (a condition which has existed during every war, only to pass a year or two afterwards),



McGill Engineering Shops, Montreal, machine tool operation class of soldiers.

special openings are often found for the crippled. Many of these positions are connected with abnormal wartime industrial activities and cannot by their nature be permanent. When the war is over these men will be out of work and confronted with a public sentiment growing colder and colder.

Fighting the snaps

Many wounded soldiers have been tempted by these apparently seductive openings. The



Invalid Soldiers' Poultry Club at Savard Park, Que.

Military Hospitals Commission has been waging a constant struggle to persuade the disabled to avail themselves of the regulation permitting the Commission to go to almost any length in training them in permanent callings where their disability will be no handicap to efficient work. Thoughtful people realize that unless the man with a disablement has greater skill than his fit competitor in the labour market he will naturally be passed over by employers who have efficiency in their shops to consider.

Men train in factories

In order to give training which will be thoroughly practical a committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and representatives of all leading industrial activities are in constant consultation with the vocational training officers of the M. H. C. Many soldiers are placed in shops and factories under apprenticeship conditions to learn new trades. In other cases actual shop working conditions are reproduced



M. H. C. Civil Service Class, Technical Institute, Montreal.

in the vocational buildings at the M. H. C. homes, especially at the Guelph Military Convalescent Hospital, where a large number of industries, working in wood, iron, textiles, etc., are operated on a commercially productive basis.

Teach thirty-five trades

Soldiers so disabled that they are debarred from their previous occupations are encouraged by every possible means to take training in a new trade. The way is not closed to any line of work in which a man could succeed. Fully 35 different trades are already being taught. Care is taken to survey the employment prospects in any industry, however, before a man is directed thereto.

Even soldiers who are able to return to their former occupations (and they are fortunately about nine-tenths of all the patients passing through the military hospitals) are urged during