

## ABREAST OF ORTHOPÆDIC DEVELOPMENT

*Research Branch of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment always watching for Improvements in Artificial Limbs*

### WORK OF THE BRANCH

To obtain the best and most practical orthopaedic appliances and artificial limbs, and to keep abreast of every improvement in their manufacture, is the chief concern of the Orthopaedic and Surgical Appliances Branch of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment, says a statement issued by the Department.

To this end the Research Branch of the Department was organized to keep constantly in touch with the progress of other countries, and also to experiment from time to time with a view to the improvement and the securing of the best appliances upon the market for the Canadian disabled.

An important conference was recently held in New York City to discuss the best means and methods of overcoming the handicap of war as represented by our maimed and wounded heroes.

Representatives from the United States, France, Belgium, Italy, Great Britain and Canada attended this conference, and the consensus of opinion was that appliances in the form of hooks had, up to this time, proved the most beneficial and practicable substitutes for the human hand.

The most practical of these, the "Canada Arm," has been used by a great number of returned soldiers, and has been pronounced by orthopaedic experts as the most useful of any so far invented. This arm has been specially designed for amputation cases above the elbow, and the main feature is a special elbow joint which can be positively locked in various positions controlled by a shrug of the shoulders. It combines in one appliance the working arm and the dress arm which removes from the wearer the old trouble of changing the limb to meet various needs. The metal parts of the working arm have been made especially strong. It is provided with a snap hook having several positions and with its various adjustments a man can perform many duties. Turned to one angle it is possible for the wearer to wield a heavy hammer, the grasp of the tool being such that the heaviest swinging blow will not dislodge the hold. Men wearing this type of hand hook have been able to saw wood, drive in nails and turn machinery, as well as manage all kinds of lifting. An excellent feature of the grip is that, although it is so vice-like for the purpose of handling tools, when necessary, in the case of an accident it is equally easy for the wearer to loosen the tension.

### WITH MOVABLE FINGERS.

At the New York conference, types of artificial arms which embodied movable fingers, mechanically operated, were given thorough consideration by the orthopaedists present, who finally came to the conclusion that, owing to the complicated mechanism necessary, such types of hands would not have a lasting practical use.

From the commencement of this work for the wounded, the Canadian orthopaedic consultants have been wide awake to every development in their line of work that has taken place in the various allied countries; always keeping in view first and foremost the most practical devices, the cost being a secondary consideration, and always bearing in mind that the returned soldier is entitled to the best that is obtainable.

The Canadian Government has arranged to keep in repair and to renew all artificial limbs and other orthopaedic appliances furnished to a disabled soldier for the remainder of his natural life. In order to do this with a maxi-

## PENSION ACT BECOMES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1

One Clause provides for Granting of Bonus for One Year to Lower Ranks--Intended to offset High Cost of Living.

The announcement that Bill 158 of the "Pension Act" as it will be known, has finally become law, should be received with satisfaction everywhere, says a statement issued from the Board of Pension Commissioners.

The Special Committee, appointed early in the last Parliamentary Session to prepare a Bill dealing with war pensions, obtained from every quarter, expert evidence dealing with the various aspects of present day pension requirements. The evidence submitted, after careful sifting, was embodied in various recommendations to Parliament, many of which are now reflected in the new Act.

Canadian Pensions have, since early in the war, been considerably higher than those paid in any other country, and the new Act contains convincing proof of Canada's intention to maintain this aspect.

It should be noted that the Act does not become effective until the "first day of the second month following its sanction," and will therefore come into operation on September 1, 1919.

The clause which probably will be most widely welcomed is that which provides for the granting of a bonus for one year, to lower ranks. A 20 per cent increase--intended to offset the present high cost of living--is allowed for ex-privates, and approxi-

mately a thirteen per cent increase for those who held the rank of sergeant, or a corresponding rank in the Naval Forces. Thus to the total disability pension of \$600 per annum for an ex-private there will be added a bonus of \$120 payable for one year only, making a total of \$720. The totally disabled ex-sergeant's pension of \$637.50 is similarly increased to \$720 by the addition of the thirteen per cent bonus, previously referred to.

A substantial increase in the pension for the first orphan child of a deceased soldier is also provided for. Under the new schedule such a child will be entitled to an award of \$360 per annum instead of \$288 as at present. Where there is more than one orphan child in a family, pension for the second child will be at the rate of \$240 per annum, and at the rate of \$192 per annum for the third and each subsequent child. Pensions for orphans are usually paid to a guardian for administration, the Board of Pension Commissioners being responsible that fit and proper persons are appointed to act in this capacity.

It is hoped that this Act, based on actual experience with pension problems both in this and in other countries, will be broad enough in its scope to effectively provide for all matters connected with pensions for several years to come.

### PENSIONS STILL WAITING

There are many additional names of soldiers by whom pensions might be claimed. The numbers given with each name should be quoted in reply to the Board of Pensions Commissioners at Ottawa. The Board has issued the following list of last known addresses of claimants who cannot be traced and in communicating with them the figures in parenthesis should be given:

Pte. Elmo J. Andrus, No. 1 D.D., formerly 111th Battalion (50176).  
Pte. Geo. A. Anderson, M.R.D. and 12th Battalion (127153).  
Spr. J. E. Anderson, 1st B Railway Construction (130031).  
Pte. J. Adams, 56th Battalion (104938).  
Gnr. Wilbert Abbey, 2nd Battery, (123457G).  
Sgt. Wm. Armsworthy, 1st D.B.S.N.R., formerly 193rd Battalion (122301G).  
Pte. J. Anderson, 107th Battalion (127154).  
Pte. Henri U. Arsenaault, 1st Can. Reserve Battalion (124959).  
Pte. Neil Akerstream, 8th Battalion (26667).  
Pte. Jos. Burns, P.P.C.L.L., (50818).  
Pte. Cyrus W. Bersen, 13th Battalion (125893).  
Pte. F. Baker, No. 4 D.D., formerly 243rd Battalion (55496).  
Pte. Hugh Burns, "A" Unit, M.H.C.C., formerly 45th Battalion (22999).  
Mde. Albertine Levesque, pension on account of Pte. Louis Bourassa, 22nd Battalion, formerly Q.R. & 2nd D.B. (53437).

Spr. Michael Berezowsky, C.R.T., 41st Battalion (120727).  
Pte. Frank Brilliant, 2nd Depot Battalion (114971).  
Pte. Henry C. Bowman, 151st, formerly 16th M.G.Co. (50002).  
A. Sgt. Ernest H. Barker, C.A.M.C. (125533).  
Pte. E. W. Barrows, 6th Forestry Draft (19383).  
Pte. Robt. Blenkinsopp, 14th, formerly 35th Battalion (30357).  
Bugler G. F. Claringbull, 29th Battalion (41926).  
Pte. A. R. Coats, 10th Battalion (2975).  
Pte. A. A. Carlton, S.S.C., formerly 13th and 20th Battalions (34430).  
Pte. Elmer R. Cass, 222nd Battalion (114150).  
Lt. Henry Campbell, 14th Battalion (124993).  
Pte. Andrew Cowie, 31st Battalion (60382).  
Hon. Capt. and Chaplain Edmond Chambers, C.E.F., (102211).  
Pte. Alex Coburn, Gen. Depot, C.E.F., (124855).  
Pte. John R. Cameron, 62nd Battalion, C.E.F. (100531).  
Pte. Frank A. Eves, (1st C.O.R.), (21333).  
Pte. Thos. Logan, 50th Battalion (102439).  
Pte. J. Lavigne, 1st D. B., formerly 257th Battalion (31280).  
Pte. David Leslie, "H" Unit, M.H.C.C., formerly 68th Battalion (30970).  
Pte. Albert E. Mathieson, 238th Battalion (49135).  
Robert L. McAdam, C.M.D.G., (118574.7461G.).  
Pte. Harry Marchell, 121st Battalion (110749).  
Pte. John Murphy, No. 4 D.D., formerly 213th Battalion (54442).  
Pte. Norman Minor, S.S.Co., formerly 28th Battalion (18806).  
Pte. S. W. Miller, 1st Western Ont. Regt. (62329).  
Pte. Stanley McIntosh, 207th Battalion (129864).  
Pte. William Morrison, 199th Battalion (116649).  
Cpl. Peter S. McDermott, 9th C.M.R., (9370).  
Pte. J. D. McSwenn, 192nd Battalion (123772).  
Cpl. Frank A. MacLean, 55th Battalion (113578).  
Pte. C. C. MacDonald, 67th and 102nd Battalions (43497).  
Pte. Robt. Martin, 12th D.D. (123742).  
Pte. Ernest W. McLelland, 56th Battalion (120856).  
Pte. Thos. Neeshwarbun, 227th Battalion (104267).  
Pte. Waldmer B. Neilsen, 128th Battalion (116101).  
Pte. D. Occhiuzzi, 137th Battalion, (86696).  
Pte. Samuel H. Orpen, 7th Brigada, M.G.Co. (35410).  
Pte. Wm. N. Pendlebury, 28th Battalion (110122).  
Pte. Dan Paquin, 71st Battalion (122087).  
Pte. Fred Thos. Parris, 48th Battalion (12398G1).  
Pte. Wm. Rutledge, C.M.G.D., (123305).  
Pte. Albert Purser, 7th Battalion (123536).  
Pte. John Riy, 3rd Dist. Dep., (129291).  
Lieut.-Col. Geo. S. Robinson, O.M.F. of C. (117859).  
Pte. John A. Russell, 12th D.D. (124104).  
Pte. J. W. Stewart, 2nd Depot Battalion (116077).  
Pte. Sven Svenson, 223rd Battalion (115479).  
Spr. W. Oswald Stratford, 3rd Reserve (117670).  
Pte. Henry Smith, 52nd O's. Battalion (31527).  
Bdr. Cyril Alfred Everett, 5th Battery, C.F.A. (132748).  
Spr. John Elligott, 12th Field Co., C.E. (122292G).  
L.-Cpl. Carl Erickson, 197th Battalion (42820).  
Pte. Arthur J. Fassett, 256th Battalion (50622).  
Pte. Peter Faillon, 87th, formerly 60th Battalion (31866).  
Spr. Dmitry Filipowitch, 41st Battalion (122050).

### TO KEEP FUR TRADE CONTROL IN LONDON

With the primary objects of maintaining the position of London as the center of the raw fur industry, and of making it increasingly important as a center of dressed, dyed and manufactured furs, there has just been formed a London Fur Trade Association, with a most influential initial membership of fur brokers, dealers and manufacturers, including the Hudson's Bay Co., says a report in the Trade and Commerce Bulletin.

During the war New York and St. Louis have both sought to deprive London of its position as the world's mart for furs, but their hopes of success were completely dispelled at the May auction sales in the metropolis, when buyers from all parts of the globe attended and record prices were realized.

The combine of members of the trade, however, has more in mind the efforts that will be made by the Germans to revive the important sales of furs that were held at Leipzig, and it is no secret that the French and Italian furriers have urged the need for British firms to co-operate with them to counteract the German intention to make Leipzig the principal fur market.