

# Governmental Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.

## A Far-reaching Scheme for the Benefit of Returning Canadians.

### What the Department Does.

Further information with regard to the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, which was constituted by the Government, by Order-in-Council, dated 21st February, 1918, under a Minister of the Crown, will be welcomed.

The Department includes (a) The Invalided Soldiers' Commission, and (b) Pensions.

Its duties and powers extend to and include the following:—

- (a) The providing of hospitals, convalescent homes and sanatoria, whether permanent or temporary, for the care or treatment of invalid officers, non-commissioned officers, men or other members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who have been honourably discharged therefrom, and the administration, control and direction of all such hospitals, convalescent homes and sanatoria, whether heretofore established or to be established;
- (b) The vocational, educational and other requisite training for civil occupation of all persons who have served in, and who have been honourably discharged from, the Canadian Expeditionary Force;
- (c) The provision of employment and all such assistance therein as may be requisite or advisable for the persons aforesaid, and generally for their rehabilitation in civil life and activities;
- (d) All matters relating to pensions for the persons aforesaid;

Provided that nothing herein shall interfere with, or affect, the powers or authority of the Board of Pension Commissioners.

On discharge from military service the returned soldier in need of treatment or training as provided for in the preceding paragraph, passes from the control of the Department of Militia and Defence to that of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.

The following information has been supplied by a representative of the department who is in England arranging to obtain information from every soldier through the filling in of a Demobilisation Questionnaire. It is regarded as highly desirable that every soldier should be in possession of the information contained in this pamphlet in order that he may be able to answer the questions on the questionnaire with a knowledge of the facts in his mind.

### For Soldiers who will shortly be Returning to Canada.

Now that you are returning to civil life your main ambition will be to get back to work and earn money. On landing in Canada you will immediately be sent to one of twenty-two dispersal areas, that is, the one in which you wish to be discharged. Your discharge will be carried on with all possible speed, and free transportation will be provided to your home.

### To Assist You.

In order to assist you the Dominion

Government has created a special Department known as the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. This Department has already done important work in aiding the return to civil life of your disabled comrades who went back to Canada before you.

So long as the only men returning to Canada were the disabled, employment was secured for them by a number of commissions created by provincial, not by the Dominion, Government.

### Unity of Command.

The system used by these commissions together with other new arrangements will be centralised under the control of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, and there will be no duplication.

Inasmuch as this Department was created especially for your service, the quickest way for you to procure information, assistance, and service is to apply to its representatives. The great majority of them are ex-members of the C.E.F. They are your friends and advisers, and they will give you every assistance in their power.

### Your Co-operation is Needed.

By this time you have probably been informed that you will be required to fill in a Demobilisation Questionnaire, which has been compiled to assist this Department in their efforts to find employment for you upon your return to Canada.

Several representatives have been appointed in England and France, and others will be on the boats in which you return. They have been appointed for the purpose of giving you all the information that you may require.

If there is something you wish to know which is not contained in this pamphlet ask the representative of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. In order that the Government may give you the best service in obtaining employment, it is necessary that you give as much information as possible about yourself, and the work you have done and wish to take up.

You will remember that many employers promised that they would keep positions open for men who enlisted. The Government is reminding the employers of this promise, and asking them to keep it. If such a promise was made to you, it would be well for you to write your old employer, and ask him to keep his pledge.

### The Employment Scheme.

For those who have no positions waiting the Government is conducting a survey of all industries where more than ten men are employed, that is to say, every employer of ten men or more is being asked to state what vacancies he has in his business. Similar arrangements are being made for smaller places of employment, so that in a short time the Government will have in its hands a list of nearly all vacant positions in the Dominion. These inquiries will be repeated from time to time so as to keep the list up to date.

To connect you with the vacant position the Government has made the following arrangements: There are in several provinces already public employment offices

through which a man can secure work without paying any fee. These offices will be controlled by the Dominion Government, and others will be established, so that in each dispersal centre, and in every town of 10,000 population or more, there will be a Government Employment Office.

As near to this office as possible, in most cases in the same building, or in the same street, the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment will have an office in charge of a responsible representative. It is to him that you should apply for employment; he will then place you in touch with the employment office in such a way as to obtain preference over non-soldiers, and particular attention to your interests. Always remember to look to the representative of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment for assistance and advice. Come back as often as necessary. Your welcome will not wear out.

### Advisory Councils.

As you know, the men who returned to Canada before you have organised the Great War Veterans Association in the interests of returned men. The executive officers of this Association, whose interests are identical with your own, have been consulted by the Government in making its plans to receive you and assist you to re-establish yourselves in civil life. The Association is also represented among the officials who have charge of your interests.

For administrative purposes the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment has divided Canada into eleven territorial units, corresponding roughly to the military districts. In each of these units, and in control of the offices established in them for your service, there will be an Advisory Council consisting of three members of the Department's staff, a representative of labour, one of manufacturing interests, one of agricultural, one of the Great War Veterans Association, and two nominated by the Provincial Government.

### The Government's Big Task.

Just as Canada's war work was carried out under the direction and guidance of the War Council of the Cabinet, so the many phases of governmental activity in connection with Canada's return to peace will, as a whole, be supervised by a sub-committee of the Cabinet, known as the Repatriation Committee.

Don't put too much reliance in calamity howlers who predict a depression of Canada's commercial prosperity, or difficulties in the labour market. As you know, Belgium and France have to be rebuilt, and Europe has to be fed, the supplies for which must come across the Atlantic for years to come. Canada will be one of the foremost countries selling material and food to Europe.

It has already been announced that the Government has made arrangements to create new demands for the products of all representative Canadian industries, and you will find that there will be work for all.

### Carry On.

You may have some difficulty in settling down right away. The people at home realise this, and are ready to make every allowance and to help you in every way possible. The country itself has the same difficulty. It has to return to peace conditions, and once more to enter into competition with other countries for trade after four years of specialised war work in office, factory and farm. With everybody working together this will

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