

and unaccustomed in their movements after an amputation or long confinement in bed. Gymnastics and more violent exercises follow; they, with the employment of machines worked by the patients themselves have quite superseded the use of passive motions obtained by machines driven by motors.

The curative value of properly-selected and properly-graduated work has been recognized everywhere. Work, when controlled by physicians, has not only a high therapeutic value in accustoming disused and damaged tissues to their function; but it has also a high psychic value. While work reaccustoms muscles to action, it reaccustoms minds to the idea of self-supporting labour. It is for this reason that hospitals,—in all of the great warring nations,—provide facilities for work, often under the auspices of a voluntary society; in this way patients, always under the control of physicians, may engage actively in occupations by which remuneration may be earned. In some of the French hospitals supplies are made for the government by patients who are paid for their work; they make magnesium lights, and do simple machine work such as the stitching of towels or of comfort bags. Not the least of the advantages, offered by a system such as this, is the opportunity which it affords *the officials concerned with vocational reëducation to recognize a patient's aptitude*; it facilitates the making of a sound and early choice of a new occupation for a disabled man who should not attempt to resume the employment which he followed before he became a soldier.

The provision of artificial legs, arms, and other appliances is an important matter; about 3 per cent. of the Belgian wounded have lost limbs and at the middle of 1916 there were about 50,000 men in France who had suffered amputation. The French estimate that about 1 per cent. of their wounded will require an artificial appliance of some sort.

The obligation of the State to provide appliances for one of its disabled soldiers is but a part of its obligation to use every means for bringing his disability to an irreducible minimum. The State must supply any appliance that may be necessary and should maintain it in repair; the appliance supplied must be of the highest quality and the one most apt to the purpose. Much has been learned concerning artificial appliances since the commencement of the war; not, perhaps, so much in the discovery of new devices as in a wider realization of the fact that the best appliance is the one which is most useful to the man who wears it. The best artificial leg, for example, is by no means necessarily the most expensive one, the