

certain patriotic Frenchmen commenced vocational training schools, supported largely by public and private philanthropy, and a good work was achieved, but nothing upon a comprehensive and national scale was undertaken until the Government of Canada led the way. Vocational training has its critics, as there are bound to be a certain number of failures—there are in every line of activity—but the percentage of failure is so small when compared with that of success that it may be practically disregarded. Up to the end of January 1921, 50,683 returned soldiers had commenced training, of whom 11,576 were minors who were trained because of the fact that they enlisted under the age of 18 years and had suffered a severe interruption of their apprenticeship or education. At this time there are 37,762 graduates and 3,983 men undergoing training, the difference between those who commenced and these latter figures representing those who for various reasons preferred to discontinue their courses before completion. The greatest number of men undergoing training at any one time was at the end of February last, when the Department had on its strength 26,022.

A very excellent feature of this work is the follow-up system in force, by which the men are watched for a period after the conclusion of training. The follow-up figures indicate that approximately 72 per cent of those who have been trained are following their new line of occupation. Men have been trained in 421 occupations.

The employment section of the Department, which closed its activities in June last, except for handicapped men, placed 101,000 men in employment, the number of actual situations secured having been 174,789.

The medical branch of the Department had on its strength on the 31st December, 1920, 6,431 patients, a decrease of about 1,300 from the 31st December, 1919. The total number of out-patient treatments for the year was no less than 447,142. The medical work includes general hospital treatment, treatment for tuberculosis, and treatment for insanity.

A branch of the work which is of vital importance to many of the returned men is that which deals with the supply of orthopedic appliances. Until the Commonwealth of Australia followed suit, Canada was the only country maintaining a government factory for the manufacture of artificial limbs. Standard appliances have been designed which are giving general satisfac-

tion. The output of this branch of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment to the 31st December, 1920, consisted of 5,448 legs, 1,962 arms, 13,565 orthopedic boots, 11,644 pairs of glasses, 24,027 repairs, in addition to which large numbers of splints, new sockets, rubber goods, belts, etc., have been furnished. Men, while undergoing medical treatment, vocational training, or waiting for the supply or repair of orthopedic appliances, are granted special rates of allowance.

Another branch of the Department which is entitled to special mention is the Soldier Settlement Board, which has done splendid service in rehabilitating the soldier on the land, and has distributed the sum of \$81,354,948 in loans for the purchase of lands, for the removal of encumbrances, for permanent improvements, and for stock and equipment. It is also worthy of mention that the total area of land taken up by soldier settlers comprises roughly 3,371,000 acres, including approximately 2,000,000 acres of free land.

The Pensions Board is another branch of the service which has carried on its work in an efficient and able manner. Canada's pension bill for the year from the 1st of September, 1920, to the 31st of August, 1921, will amount to between \$33,000,000 and \$34,000,000, a sum in excess of the total expenditure of the Dominion not many years ago. There are approximately 75,000 disability and dependent pensions being paid, and the total number of persons receiving benefits by way of pensions is roughly 130,000. The pension paid to a disabled man is continued as long as his disability continues to exist; it therefore may be said that the door is never closed to the man who is suffering from any handicap as a result of his war service. The pensions paid in this country are higher than those paid in any other country, with the solitary exception of that paid by the Government of the United States to a single man who is totally incapacitated.

The question of the Tariff, with which my honourable friend dealt to some extent, is one of the principal matters to be discussed at this Session of Parliament. Since the adoption of the National Policy under Sir John Macdonald in 1878 Canada has continued to maintain a protective tariff. When Sir Wilfrid Laurier came into power in 1896 he continued the policy of protection, realizing, no doubt, that any drastic