

chain of modern, fire-proof hospitals for the treatment of veterans. During the last two years a considerable amount of new accommodation has come into use, and work started on several other projects. The high-lights of this period include:

A complete renovation of Lancaster Hospital, near Saint John, N.B. New operating rooms, new laboratories and new kitchens were installed in this modernized 500-bed hospital. The remodelled hospital was opened in May, 1954.

A completely new hospital was built at Ste. Foy, Quebec, to replace the old hospital—a former school—in Quebec City. This 325-bed hospital was opened by the Prime Minister in May, 1954. I was there. It is the most modern hospital in Canada.

A new out-patient wing came into use at Queen Mary Veterans' Hospital, Montreal, in November, 1954.

A new floor, accommodating 35 beds, at the Medical Unit, Westminster Hospital, London, came into use in April, 1954.

At Deer Lodge Hospital, Winnipeg, construction was started in June, 1955, to replace 300 beds in frame buildings with the same number of beds in modern, fireproof wings.

The Minister of Veterans Affairs laid the cornerstone of a new wing for the Colonel Belcher Hospital, Calgary, in November, 1955. This 250-bed wing is expected to be opened before next winter and will replace the old convalescent hospital.

The department now owns and operates 11 active treatment hospitals, two convalescent centres and three veteran homes, with a total normal capacity of 9,435 beds. In addition, the department has 588 beds in pavilions owned by the department but operated by other hospitals.

War veterans' allowances—The War Veterans' Allowance Act was amended in March, 1955, increasing the rates and ceilings. Single recipients may now receive up to \$60 monthly and those who are married up to \$108 per month. The new ceilings are \$840 for single veterans and \$1,440 for married recipients.

Education Assistance Act (Children of War Dead)—This act came into force in July, 1953, and so far 671 have been assisted to continue their education. Of these, 110 have completed their courses and 464 are still continuing their studies. The remainder discontinued their training, for one reason or another.

The Honourable Hugues Lapointe has neglected nothing to reform the Department of Veterans Affairs and to help the war veterans and their families.

I wish to pay a tribute to the Minister of Justice and also to the honourable senators and the honourable members of the House of Commons who sat jointly on the Criminal Code committee, all of whom have done service to the country. The Code has been simplified and it is much better than it was. I am very pleased to convey to you the message of the Canadian Bar Association, to the effect that the revision of the Criminal Code reflects honour on the Minister of Justice and the members of the committee.

The honourable Leader of the Government in this chamber (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) is far from being a gentleman of leisure. Both as Leader of the Government in the Senate and as Solicitor General, he has a lot to do. I wanted to have some information about his work; and I am very much interested in him, because he has always been kind to me and because he was the greatest Speaker of the House of Commons that I have known. Besides that, he deserves credit for having made his rulings himself; he did not ask anybody to write them; and he was always right. That is something I cannot forget.

The Remission Service is a very important branch of the Government. It is a branch which, considering men and women from the human point of view, tries to improve their mentality and to make them better citizens. The Solicitor General deals with them with justice and also with kindness. The Remission Service is the branch of the Department of Justice which investigates each year between four and five thousand applications for the release on parole of inmates from penal institutions in Canada. It is the responsibility of the Solicitor General under our constitutional system to advise the Governor General as to which of these inmates should be released on parole; that is, on ticket of leave. The Solicitor General personally considers each case. In 1954, 916 inmates were released on ticket of leave. In 1955 more than thirteen hundred were so released. Of the persons released in 1954—this is quite interesting—only four per cent had up to November 1955 violated the conditions of their release and had to be returned to the institutions from which they had been released. It is noteworthy that during the past two years the remission service has worked out a system of supervision of persons released on ticket of leave. This is done through the service of social service agencies, such as the John Howard Society, the *Société d'Orientation et de Réhabilitation Sociale*, and provincial probation officers. In 1954 almost 75 per cent of persons released on ticket of leave received such supervision.