

EN ROUTE TO THE HOSPITAL

A wounded Canadian soldier returned from the front being conveyed aboard a hospital car on the Government Railway of Canada en route to a hospital

subsistence allowances to the man and his family. So far, about 900 men have applied for this training, and nine tenths of them have been found eligible for it.

AN ILLITERATE SOLDIER'S EXPERIENCE

I quote from a letter, dated Montreal, June 15, 1917, from a French Canadian returned soldier to an officer of the institution where he spent his convalescence:

"As you know, for the past four weeks I have been at work in the tool room of the Dominion Bridge Company, and I just thought I would like to drop you a line to express my thanks to the Military Hospitals Commission.

"When I came back from the front in October 1916, I was not able to read or write, and so I went into the school class at the Grey Nuns' Convalescent Home. As you will now see from this letter, I can now make a pretty fair show of myself.

"When the M. H. C. opened the Machine Shop at McGill I decided to take up the course, as I wanted to get a trade for myself. I had never worked on machines before, so I had a lot to learn, but I stuck with it, and when I got my discharge,

three months later, I was able to secure my job with the Dominion Bridge Company. I received \$21.10 per week since I started. The foreman told me this week that he was going to put me on a new machine and this would mean more money for me. I expect to get about \$30 per week.

"If it had not been for the school I never would have been in the place I am to-day. Before the war, I was driving a team at \$15 per week. I also worked on a pile driver at \$18 per week, so you see I am now able to earn almost twice as much as I could before. I hope all the returned boys will see the chances they have in the school and make the most of them."

Each of the nine Provincial Governments of Canada has appointed a Commission to help discharged soldiers in getting employment—the chairman being ex-officio a member of the Federal Commission. There are a multitude of local committees, formed generally both to welcome the soldiers on their first arrival home and to help them afterward in getting employment. With the labor market in its present state, this is not so very hard. But when the war ends, no matter how gradual