

THE STRENGTH OF THE VETERANS' ALLIANCE

Endorsation

(Central Ontario Region), was tested on the 12th February, 1924, by the calling of a Conference of Veterans held in the Temple Building, Toronto, at which over 150 delegates from the various individual returned soldier associations were present. This Conference proved that the bonds of unity held. Many helpful suggestions covering the needs of ex-service men in the way of legislation and policy at Ottawa were formulated, and practically every angle of Pension and Treatment requirements touched upon. From this point onward The Veterans' Alliance has progressed with almost unqualified success.

THE AIMS OF THE VETERANS' ALLIANCE

Aims

were, in the first instance, the "picking up of the wounded." The cry of "Stretcher Bearer!" heard on every side from the throats of men tortured by sufferings from which they could obtain neither physical nor mental relief, or material compensation, rang in the ears of the newly formed organization, and the whole of the efforts of the Alliance were immediately devoted to the amelioration of their complaints, as far as might be, by obtaining for them appropriate treatment, and pension wherever indicated.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE VETERANS' ALLIANCE

Accomplish-
ments

have not been widely advertised, except by those who have benefited by its work, but evidence of its success, it may here be stated, that problems relative to pension and general service matters are placed before us by men residing not only in Ontario and other parts of Canada, but in the United States, England, and, in one instance, Australia.

During the first eighteen months of its operations The Veterans' Alliance has been instrumental in obtaining Pensions and Retroactive Adjustments amounting to over \$110,000.00 *paid in actual cash* to the ex-service men of the City of Toronto. The amount so recovered for the entire Province of Ontario is considerably larger.

Keynote of
Success

The keynote of this success has been painstaking service. Realizing that the ex-service man must prove that the disability for which he is claiming consideration is the result of war service, before the Board of Pension Commissioners can lawfully place him on the pension list, or give the benefit of hospital treatment, no pains have been spared to enquire into the minutest detail of pre-war occupation and health record, military history, and state of health since discharge, supported by medical evidence from outstanding specialists in the particular disease from which