

(F) Your Committee is of the opinion that it is the duty of the State to make all necessary and suitable arrangements for the proper maintenance of returned disabled soldiers and their families, and recommend that legislation be enacted by the Federal Parliament to prevent indiscriminate and unauthorized appeals for funds or other property by private persons or associations on behalf of returned soldiers, so that no appeal for funds, or subscriptions, or any benefits on their behalf should be made, except such as may be authorized by legislation of this Parliament.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES.

(a) The soldiers' original pass-book should not be taken from him, or if called in for purposes of verification, should be returned to him before discharge in order that he may be able to assure himself that his final settlement is just, and that he has received all moneys rightly due him. All such pass-books at present with the Pay Department should be returned.

(b) Three months' bonus pay, which, under Order in Council 1091, directs that a soldier who has been overseas and has been on active service, for at least six months, should receive on discharge pay in diminishing monthly amounts, for example: if \$100 bonus is due him, he should receive \$30 the first month, \$25 the second month, \$20 the third month, \$15 the fourth month and \$10 the fifth month, thus enabling him to gradually return to civil life and employment.

(c) The system of giving clothing on discharge should be altered so as to secure for the man a well-made and properly fitted suit of serviceable civilian clothing, made of standard cloth purchased through the War Purchasing Commission, and the cash grant in lieu thereof should be abolished.

(d) Your Committee recommends that steps be taken to reorganize the separation allowance and assigned pay service and that an immediate endeavour be made to secure new and more commodious quarters where the staff can work under better conditions with a thorough business system installed.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

The returned soldiers, especially those from the Western Provinces, evinced much interest in Land Settlement schemes, and several projects on this subject were offered in evidence. Your Committee, however, has not as yet given serious study to questions of this nature, as the Minister of the Interior has already presented a motion for the creation of "The Soldiers' Settlement Board" and much legislation has been passed on this subject by the provinces. (See Appendices to Evidence.)

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) Complaint has been made that a French-speaking soldier landing in Canada has not always been met and examined on debarkation by persons who have knowledge of the French language, and it is recommended that provision be made at Quebec, Halifax and St. John to remove this cause of complaint.

(b) As soon as a definite policy has been adopted by the bodies concerned (The Militia Department, Military Hospitals Commission, Pensions Commissioners, and Soldiers' Aid Associations) for securing the proper return of a soldier to civilian life, a booklet, explaining the procedure in simple language, should be prepared and distributed among the members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force and made available for the general public.