

CANADA LEADS THE WAY.

The work of the Invalided Soldiers' Commission, established in the war, has served as a model for the Entente in dealing with returned men. Recently a party of American experts toured Canada to investigate our vocational education methods. Douglas C. McMurtie, Director of the American Red Cross Institute of New York, was in charge of the party. Mr. McMurtie said Canada had been selected, as it was the only Allied country which had from the outset recognized the task of vocational rehabilitation as a national obligation to its disabled soldiers. Inasmuch as the recent American legislation is based almost exactly on the Canadian system, the compliment is one of which Canada has reason to be proud.

BOTULISM IN THE ARMY.

A few cases of botulism have been discovered in the American army, but none has resulted fatally, and the Medical Corps has encountered no difficulty in checking the spread of the disease.

A greater number of cases have been found in the British forces, but the percentage is not much larger there and, while deeply interested in the character of this latest of war diseases, physicians, both British and American, profess a conviction that it will not become so prevalent as to become a menace. One of the victims in the American army has been an officer at headquarters. He recovered, only a slight drooping of the eyelids remaining some days after he was discharged, as a reminder of his illness.

MORE BOYS BORN IN WAR-TIME.

Vital statistics collected in several of the warring countries go to support the old theory that nature endeavors to make up for the sacrifice of men in war by increasing the male birth-rate. It is said that the proportion of male to female births in the United States was 5 per cent. greater during the latter half of 1917 than in the corresponding period in the years immediately preceding, and almost 11 per cent. greater than the average of 10 years ago. The proportion of males in British birth registration was about 6 per cent. higher preceding the war. The tendency is not so marked in Ontario, but even here 106 or 107 boys are being born to every 100 girls—a slight increase over pre-war figures. The phenomenon has been noticed in previous wars and it is attributed to pre-natal influences.