

*Co-operation of Boards of Trade.*—In March, a letter was written to the Secretary of each Board of Trade asking for the appointment of a Committee to consider the following questions:—

1. "The absorption into business and industrial life of some half a million men at present under arms."
2. "Re-adjustment of the occupations of an enormous number of men and women now employed in the manufacture of munitions."
3. "New employment for women now temporarily occupying the positions of men serving overseas."
4. "The large immigration to be expected after the declaration of peace."

The Boards of Trade were asked to send reports embodying their suggestions and recommendations on the above points, and a further letter is now being sent to them outlining some of the special problems likely to arise on demobilization, so as to assist them in formulating their suggestions.

*Seasons of Unemployment.*—In April, a letter was issued to Trades Unions Officials with a view to ascertaining what periods of the calendar year were the most favourable, and least favourable, from an employment point of view, in each trade throughout the various provinces of Canada. This information was asked so as to avoid, if possible, the mustering out from military service of men in the various trades at a time when the demand for that class of labour might be at a low ebb in his province.

*Co-operation of Provincial Organizations.*—Through the Directors of National Service in each District, information is being gathered as to the nature and scope of the organizations created in the different provinces for providing employment for returned soldiers. Particulars are being obtained as to the activities of the Soldiers' Employment Commissions and similar bodies in each province, with the object of co-ordinating their efforts when demobilization comes.

*Card issued to Canadian Overseas Forces.*—A card is now being distributed through the Overseas Department of Militia and Defence, to be filled out by all officers and men on active service overseas. There are eighteen questions on this card, and information is sought particularly on the following points:—

- (a) "Trade or profession and name and address of last employer."
- (b) "Whether the soldier's old position is open for him on his return to Canada in fit condition."
- (c) "The location in Canada in which he proposes to settle after the war and the amount of money he expects to have at his disposal."
- (d) "Whether he wishes to take up farming as an occupation; and whether he has ever worked on a farm."
- (e) "As to his desire to take advantage of any available scheme of assisted agricultural settlement, and if so, the province preferred, and whether, in order to gain experience, he would be willing to do farm work for prevailing wages, if his dependents were provided for."

#### 4. PENSIONS, PAY AND ALLOWANCES.

*Pensions.*—Speaking generally, the witnesses who gave evidence with regard to pensions had two complaints, namely, inadequacy of amount, and delay in payment. Investigation by your Committee disclosed that most of the delays complained of took place in the early stages before the inauguration of the Pensions Board became complete, and that after its operations became more widely understood the earlier differences were to a great extent removed.