motia, insufficient blankets, conditions of transport, delay in bringing offenders to trial, and failure to give adequate medical examination before putting prisoners to work are other subjects which have been covered.

Eight Canadian government departments and several private voluntary organizations are concerned with the welfare of Canadian prisoners. In March, 1942, a Committee for the Protection and Welfare of Canadian Prisoners of War in Enemy Hands was set up by agreement between the departments concerned, and Colonel F.W. Clarke, special assistant to the adjutant-general, was named chairman. The committee's main function is to initiate action on all matters concerning prisoners of war. All matters of broad policy are referred to it for approval, and all matters of importance are referred to it for recommendation. A "services committee" composed of a senior officer from each of the Departments of Navy, Army, Air and Transport has been established and forms a "steering and advisory" body within the large committee. Chief function of this services committee is to deal with purely service matters and to obtain unanimous approval on such matters from the departments concerned.

Colonel Clarke's committee maintains close liaison with all interested departments, as well as with the Canadian Red Cross and (through the Department of External Affairs) the protecting power (Switzerland), the International Red Cross and other allied governments.

This committee functions in close conjunction with the office of the special assistant to the adjutant-general, which acts as a central organization to handle all matters relevant to the care and welfare of Canadian prisoners of war. It also keeps the next-of-kin of prisoners as fully informed as possible, and handles inquiries. One section in this office co-ordinates all action taken by the government and by voluntary organizations in regard to repatriation. The office is also working on broad questions of relief for allied nations' prisoners, through the Red Cross conferences and allied government committees.

There are four separate agencies to whom the next-of-kin may turn for advice, help or information. The office of the special assistant to the adjutant-general itself provides such a service. A Red Cross inquiry bureau has been set up in Ottawa, the function of which is to make inquiries about individual prisoners, receive and deliver reports on sickness, injury and the general welfare of prisoners of war, and to make arrangements for the sending of individual medical parcels. In addition to this, the Canadian Prisoners of War Relatives Association has been established and publishes a monthly news sheet which includes news of regulations affecting prisoners of war, extracts from prisoners' letters and other news of interest to the next-of-kin. The Department of National War Services is also ready to help on all matters connected with next-of-kin parcels.

A recent order-in-council (P.C. 61-1761, March 17, 1944) provides for the fixing of the presumed date of death of prisoners of war. It stipulates that when a member of the military forces of Canada has been officially reported to have died while a prisoner, but the exact date is not known, the adjutant-general is empowered to fix a date not later than the date on which the notification of death is received in Canada. This date will be used for the purpose of adjusting pay and allowances, pension, settlement of the service estate, and any other matter pertaining to the deceased's military service. If it should be found on establishment of the actual date of death that the government has been made to the member's estate or dependents, such overpayment may not be recovered, but if some amount still remains due, it will be paid to the member's estate or dependents.