

The terms of engagement varied—some signed on for the duration plus six months, some for a lesser term, and in some cases there was no agreement. At first the personnel were not covered by insurance but about the year 1944 the organizations concerned took out policies for casualty insurance in the amount of \$4,000 per individual.

The Canadian Red Cross Society suggests that their personnel be granted all the benefits accruing to former members of the forces. No representations were received from the St. John Ambulance Association.

Section 4 (b)

ORTHOPAEDIC NURSES SELECTED BY THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY AT THE REQUEST OF THE SCOTTISH MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Interdepartmental Committee on Veterans Affairs examined representations from the Canadian Red Cross Society on behalf of twenty-two highly qualified orthopaedic nurses whose services were secured by the Society at the request of the Scottish Ministry of Health. The nurses went to the United Kingdom with nine orthopaedic surgeons for the purpose of establishing an orthopaedic wing in a large hospital at Hairmyres. The Scottish Ministry of Health paid transportation of the doctors and nurses to and from Scotland and also their salaries. The age range of the nurses was 23 to 45 years and the average length of their service was approximately four years. The nurses underwent a complete medical examination, including an X-ray of the chest, within six months of selection.

The Canadian Red Cross stated that the total salary of a Canadian nurse on general duty for forty-six months with the Orthopaedic Unit was \$2,584.68 with £23 10s. income tax deducted, while a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps Nursing Service for the same period would earn \$6,882.75 with no deduction for income tax.

The National Executive Committee of the Canadian Red Cross refer to the benefits "to Canadian nurses who went to Africa under very similar conditions" and, while the Red Cross assumed no financial responsibility in respect of the orthopaedic group, the Society decided to request officially that the orthopaedic nurses should receive benefits equal to those granted other groups.

The Interdepartmental committee invites attention to the following facts:—

The members of the South African Military Nursing Service were recruited by means of a recruiting campaign carried out with the concurrence of the Department of National Defence; that they were provided with uniforms and wore Canadian insignia and rank badges; and that they served under the South African military authorities.

Section 5

NO. 45 GROUP R.A.F., CIVILIAN FLYING PERSONNEL

The Interdepartmental Committee on Veterans Affairs examined representations and evidence given before the Parliamentary Committee, 1945, by Messrs. J. E. Weaver and J. M. Pierce on behalf of the Canadian Flying Personnel of the R.A.F. "Transport Command", also the representations of eight former Radio Navigators now attending university, and Mr. T. L. Church, M.P. The Committee also heard evidence from Air Commodore J. McL. Murray, Director of Accounts and Finance for the R.C.A.F., Wing Commander J. V. F. Courtemanche, and Mr. J. M. Pierce, of Montreal.

Before proceeding to consider the above group of flying personnel, it should be noted that a number of non-flying personnel on whose behalf Mr.