

APPENDIX "B"

THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Chairman,
Special Committee on Veterans Affairs,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Pursuant to a recommendation contained in the final report to the House of Commons of the Special Committee on Veterans Affairs, 1945 session, an Interdepartmental Committee on Veterans Affairs was appointed by the Honourable the Minister of Veterans Affairs on January 11th, 1946, to study certain submissions made to the 1945 Special Committee and, as a fact-finding body, to report thereon to your Committee. The Interdepartmental Committee was composed of Mr. F. L. Barrow, of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Chairman, Colonel A. L. Tosland of the Department of National Defence and Mr. E. B. Armstrong of the Department of Finance. The Interdepartmental Committee was very fortunate in having the able assistance of Mr. A. L. Burgess as its secretary.

The Interdepartmental Committee has studied representations and obtained data on the following subjects:—

1. Corps of (Civilian) Canadian Fire Fighters for Service in the United Kingdom.
2. Auxiliary Services Supervisors with service overseas and Overseas Headquarters Staff.
3. V. A. D.'s
4. (a) Canadian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade personnel other than V. A. D.'s.
4. (b) Orthopaedic Nurses selected by the Canadian Red Cross Society at the request of the Scottish Ministry of Health.
5. No. 45 Group, R.A.F., civilian flying personnel.
6. (a) Instructors in Elementary Flying Training Schools under B.C.A.T.P.
6. (b) Instructors in Air Observer Schools.
7. (a) Merchant Seamen.
7. (b) Civilian Crews of Government Vessels and of Cable Ships.
7. (c) Halifax Pilots.
8. Canadian Women in W.R.N.S.
9. (a) Civil Service Preference.
9. (b) Re-employment in Civil Service.
10. Veterans' Bureau—Status of Commission.
11. Misconduct.
12. Soldier Settlement Act—Grant of Clear Titles.
13. Business and Professional Loans.
14. Army Benevolent Fund.
15. Gallantry Awards—World War I.

Fifteen formal meetings have been held and seventeen witnesses examined. In addition the members and secretary of the Committee held numerous informal conferences in their quest for information and with one another.