

Nova Scotia.

The number of soldiers returned since the date of the last report has been very small, and we have been able to get them practically all placed, excepting a number who are either not able as yet to work, or are not desirous of obtaining work until finally discharged.

The following is the disposition of the soldiers returned to date:—

No. of soldiers returned to date.	128
No. for whom employment has been found.	60
No. died.	1
No. unable to work.	4
No. not wanting work.	3
No. employment when wanted.	9
No. in Hospitals and Convalescent Homes.	23
No. wanting vocational training.	2
No. insufficient data to locate, and who do not reply to our letters.	18
No. unemployed.	3
	128

Manitoba.

Up to April 7, employment has been found for 236 returned men. In addition to this, fifteen to twenty have re-enlisted. It is gratifying that more positions have been offered than there are men capable of filling them.

The Conference called at the beginning of March has had the desired effect. Committees have been appointed in the various towns throughout Manitoba which will take care of and look after returned soldiers.

British Columbia.

The Returned Soldiers' Aid Commission of British Columbia has presented a report, to the Government of the Province, of a most comprehensive character. It deals with the matter of Land Settlement, of Technical training, of the establishment of Labour Bureaux and of a Supply Farm in connection with the Military Convalescent Hospital at Esquimalt.

With regard to the matter of providing farm lands for settlement by returned soldiers, the Commission recommends:—

That in recognition of their services to the Empire,—

1. A land-grant be made these soldiers in accordance with the following regulations:—

2. That an independent Board of Commissioners be appointed to select suitable lands for settlement; to direct the preliminary land-clearing or equivalent improvements; to approve of the purchase of all stock, implements, etc.; and to administer all the funds in connection with the co-operative settlements.

3. That the land-grant take the form of farms of such acreage as may, in the opinion of the said Board of Commissioners, be best adapted to the different classes of farming to be pursued thereon, in accordance with the location and adaptability of the land. In those districts best suited to the purposes of mixed farming and dairy farming the acreage will necessarily be larger than where it is the intention of the beneficiary to follow poultry-raising, market-gardening, or fruit-growing.

4. The farms to be located in such districts as may be determined upon by the Board of Commissioners, and that such provision be made by the Government as may enable the said Board of Commissioners to acquire such lands and to carry out the co-operative land-settlement, and that these lands be in blocks of such size as to provide for at least sixty allotments.

5. The farms to be subdivisions of selected areas of suitable size in these respective districts, such areas to be Government lands if available, or to be acquired by the Government for the purpose, and to be within easy access of transportation and markets.

6. Each of the foregoing areas to constitute a Co-operative Settlement, for which purpose it shall be laid out or disposed of as follows: Sufficient acreage to be reserved for a Demonstration Farm, Central Organization Plant, roads, recreation-grounds, etc. The balance of the acreage to be subdivided into farms of such size as may be decided upon by the said Board of Commissioners with regard to the location and the class of farming to be followed thereon.

7. The Central Organization Plant and Demonstration Farm are to be centrally located, in order that they will be within the shortest possible distance from the farms on the boundaries of the areas.

8. It being a prime necessity that all the farms shall have easy access to the Central Organization Plant, roads shall be constructed both along all section-lines and also connecting each farm with the main or trunk roads.

9. The Demonstration Farm eventually to be provided with equipment necessary for the proper working and developing thereof and with live stock in accordance with its requirements.

10. To make complete the organization of the settlement it will be necessary that there be provided those features essential to the successful working out of a co-operative system to be availed of by the soldiers

occupying the settlement farms. These will constitute the Central Organization Plant, and will be located centrally in accordance with paragraph 7, and will comprise:—

- (a) General store;
- (b) Creamery;
- (c) Blacksmith-shop;
- (d) Carpenter's shop;
- (e) Public hall;
- (f) School;
- (g) "A residence" designed to provide temporary accommodation for soldiers going to look over land, etc. It will, in this respect, take the place of an hotel, and should be suitable for the accommodation of the soldiers' wives as well.

11. Those eligible to become possessors of farm lands under this recommendation are:—

- (a) All returned soldiers irrespective of their point of enlistment and without distinction either as to military rank or length of service;
- (b) The son of a deceased or permanently disabled soldier, provided he is at least eighteen years of age. In case the son has not reached this age, provision to be made whereby his mother or guardian can take up the allotment and develop it until such time as he attains the age of eighteen;
- (c) The widow of a deceased soldier;
- (d) The wife of a permanently disabled soldier;
- (e) The daughter of a deceased soldier, if there is no son in the family;

Provided always that only one allotment shall be available by a soldier or any member of his family, and that such allotment will only be made where it is the intention of the beneficiary to make *bonafide* settlement thereon. It is not intended that these allotments shall be made available for purely speculative purposes.

12. That on each farm allotment there be certain improvements made at the expense of the Provincial Government, said improvements to be confined to land-clearing and to the draining and fencing of the cleared area.

13. That in no case the cost of these initial improvements exceed the sum of \$500 per allotment.

14. That further assistance be given in the way of a long-term loan at a low rate of interest for the purpose of erecting farm buildings, for the purchase of machinery, stock, seed, fodder, household necessities, etc., or for further improvements in clearing, draining, or fencing.

15. That all such stock and equipment be purchased only on approval of the said Board of Commissioners and remain the property of the Government.

16. That a lien or mortgage to the full amount of such loan, with interest as agreed upon, be established against the farm, including all chattels and improvements.

17. That \$1,350 be the maximum amount loaned by the Government against any allotment. The loan transaction to take the form of a credit in supplies which will be charged against the allotment-holder on the books of the Central Organization to be provided by the Board of Commissioners. All such supplies, whether buildings, live stock, implements, or improvements to the land, will be provided by the Central Organization, though the allotment-holder has, of course, the option of specifying his requirements.

18. That no titles be issued for at least three years from date of entry.

19. That at the expiration of such period, provided improvements to an extent to be decided upon by the Board of Commissioners have been made to the approval of the said Board, patents be issued; any unpaid part of loan to be a first mortgage against the property.

20. That the taxes on any allotment for the year in which such allotment is taken up by a returned soldier be remitted.

21. That arrangements be made whereby a limited number of returned soldiers receive assistance in establishing at the centre of the settlement such industries and occupations as, in the opinion of the Board of Commissioners, directly contribute to the needs of the settlers.

22. That full opportunities to obtain training and instruction in agricultural matters be placed at the disposal of those returned soldiers who may wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to acquire land.

23. That such training and instruction be given under the direction of the College of Agriculture of the Provincial University.

24. That a short course of three months' duration be offered in general agriculture, and that this course be repeated as often as is deemed advisable.

25. That in this course laboratory-work constitute the major part of class-room instruction, and that practical work in the fields, orchards, and stables receive special attention.

26. That tuition be provided by the Provincial Government free of cost for all returned soldiers who are desirous of taking a three months' course with a view to acquiring a holding in the co-operative settlement; their board and lodging while taking such course to be provided by the Dominion Government.

27. That adequate facilities be provided in the way of instructors, class-rooms, dormitories, laboratory and field equipment, stables, live stock, etc., for the efficient carrying out of the courses indicated above.

28. Applicants for these courses are to be accommodated in the following order:—

- (a) Soldiers who have taken up farms in the Co-operative Settlement and those whose intention it is to do so;
- (b) Soldiers owning farms outside the Co-operative Settlement;
- (c) Other parties desiring to avail themselves of the training offered.

29. That a trained agricultural adviser be appointed for each settlement, and that he undertake field demonstrations in co-operation with the farmers, and generally assist them in the conducting of their work in accordance with best farm practice.

30. That, with a view to assisting those returned soldiers who had taken up pre-emptions before going to the front, they may, if they desire, receive assistance in the form of land improvements to the value of \$500 such improvements to be made by and to be subject to the approval of the said Board of Commissioners.

31. That the nature and extent of the improvements required to be made on any allotment before title to same shall be granted be decided upon by the said Board of Commissioners. Such duties to be performed within reasonable time limits, provided that the total improvements are not required to be done in less than three years' or more than five years' time. Failure on the part of an allotment-holder to comply with the regulations regarding improvements to constitute grounds for the cancellation of such allotment.

The following is a statement of the Employment situation:—

Number of men reported to the Committees.	217
Number of applications for employment.	173
Number of men for whom positions have been found.	151

Saskatchewan.

It has been found necessary to place an organizer in the field to assist in the organization of local leagues throughout the Province. The Commission has secured the services of Sergeant Ewing, a returned soldier, who, in addition to his duties in connection with the local committees, is delivering lectures on his experiences at the front.

There are at the present time 45 Returned Soldiers Welcome and Aid Leagues in the Province, but the feeling is strong that this number should be greatly augmented. This work is being vigorously prosecuted.

Alberta.

Owing to the increase in the number of men returning a branch office has been opened in Calgary. Mr. W. Alsdorf, a returned soldier, has been placed in charge. From end to end of the Province there are organizations for the care of returned soldiers. 326 centres have been organized to date.

Vocational Officers Appointed.

Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.—Mr. F. H. Sexton, Director of Technical Education for Nova Scotia.

Manitoba.—Mr. J. C. Warters, Director of Technical Education for Winnipeg.

Alberta.—Dr. J. C. Miller, Director of Technical Education for Alberta.

British Columbia.—Mr. John Kyle, Organizer of Technical Education for British Columbia.

Saskatchewan.—Mr. H. W. Hewitt, Supervisor of Manual Arts, Saskatoon.

APPOINTMENT OF LT. COLONEL A. THOMPSON, M.D., M.P., AS MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Dr. A. Thompson, member of Parliament for the Yukon, was recently gazetted Lieutenant-Colonel attached to the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and has been assigned for duty to the Commission as Medical Superintendent.

Dr. Thompson has had extensive experience in medical and hospital work. He was one of the Members of Parliament who concluded the military course provided for the Members by the Minister of Militia in Ottawa during the recent session.