

modation for all who are likely to be sent to Canada for some time to come.

The commission is also engaged in providing vocational training and instruction in the convalescent hospitals, and special training for men whose disabilities prevent their return to their previous occupations. Such subjects as freehand and mechanical drawing, market gardening, automobile engineering, typewriting, accountancy, poultry and bee farming are taught.

In conjunction with the Department of Militia and Defence the commission is administering a command known as the Military Hospitals Commission Command, into which are drafted all returned invalids, and men in Canada who require convalescent treatment.

Each province has established a commission for the purpose of assisting men at their discharge to obtain employment. The Military Hospitals Commission co-operates with the provinces in this respect in the furnishing of information, and acts as a general clearing house.

The work of the commission is only in its infancy, but the way in which the problem has been handled augurs well for the future.

I desire to pay my tribute to the provincial governments which have co-operated with us in the most cordial spirit and have aided in every way within their power in carrying on the work.

At six o'clock, the House took recess.

### After Recess.

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I was speaking of the great organization necessary in connection with so large a force as that which Canada is maintaining in this war. I omitted a reference to the Canadian Dental Service which, as I am informed by the officers of the Department of Militia and Defence, has made it possible for about fifty thousand Canadians to pass the examination and to enter military service who otherwise might have been unable—probably would have been unable—to do so. Canada was one of the first countries in the world to establish this service, and the results which have been obtained are eminently satisfactory in every way.

If I may be permitted to allude to some other departments of the Government upon which unusual burdens have been cast in this war, I would mention the Naval Ser-

vice. The coast defence of this country has been largely under the control of that department. It is perfectly true that in the early months of the war, when we consulted the British Government, we were asked to concentrate our efforts upon military organization and to leave the question of naval defence to the Admiralty. Nevertheless, it has been necessary to establish patrols, and a number of patrol boats have been secured by the department; I should not be surprised if such efforts must engage their attention still more in the future. That department has had charge of the closing and guarding of our harbours and of the censorship of wireless stations. Upon that department also has devolved the duty of establishing and maintaining naval bases upon a war footing on both coasts, which bases have been utilized not only for the ships of the British Navy but for the ships of allied navies as well. The training of the officers and men who have enlisted has also been a matter of serious import for the Minister and officers of that department. They have kept in constant touch with the Admiralty in these matters. Further, the Minister of Naval Service has been chairman of the sub-committee of Council which has had charge of arrangements respecting the Admiralty transport. I shall speak of that more later on, as in that connection highly important duties have been imposed upon the Minister of the Naval Service.

It would be undesirable for me to omit allusion to the fact that the production of munitions in this war is quite as important as the enlistment of men. I have said before, and now repeat, that this is a war in which applied science and applied mechanics play a part as important as the armies themselves. It has been recently stated by the chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, and I have no doubt that the statement is correct, that Canada is to-day producing more munitions of war than any country produced before the war, with the single exception of Germany. To give an idea of the magnitude that these operations have assumed, I am informed by the chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board that the workmen and inspectors engaged in these operations at the present time number more than 304,000; that there are 630 factories, chemical plants and loading stations which are producing or otherwise dealing with munitions; and that the orders, including the expenditure for an aeroplane factory which is in progress, and including also the anticipated orders for aeroplanes, exceed \$700,000,000. It is a very gratifying thing to the people