

Mr. O'KEEFE: In respect of veterans applying for these positions who do not have the necessary qualifications required for certain jobs, has any thought been given to arranging the necessary training in order that these veterans could qualify?

Mr. CRAWFORD: This would be quite impractical. I am thinking in terms of people with university degrees, with high technical qualifications and so on. We can do a certain amount in respect of the cleaners, the helpers, the orderlies and that sort of thing. We do attempt to use veterans as orderlies and train them on the job. However, even that source of supply is running pretty thin because an orderly has to have a pretty strong back as well as a reasonable amount of education. Veterans are just getting too old for this kind of work.

Mr. O'KEEFE: You say it is impractical to train veterans for any specific job?

Mr. CRAWFORD: No, I am not saying that. That is far too general a statement. I am saying that it is impractical to try to train them for the type of jobs that I require to have done in my hospitals.

Mr. O'KEEFE: Are there any vacancies on the staff which take care of the graves at Beaumont-Hamel?

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Mace says he can answer that question.

Mr. O'KEEFE: May I ask Mr. Mace that now, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. MACE: We only have one case, that of a caretaker, at Beaumont-Hamel. This position was vacated by the caretaker who previously occupied it. We have not filled the vacancy yet.

Mr. O'KEEFE: Have you considered any applicants?

Mr. MACE: We have had a letter indicating an interest on the part of a veteran who is a Newfoundlander, but it has not yet been finalized.

Mr. O'KEEFE: Can you tell me the salary scale for that particular job and how it compares with the salaries paid by the War Graves Commission for similar jobs elsewhere?

Mr. MACE: This is what we call a locally employed position. In other words, it is not a regular civil service position. I may be wrong, but I believe the salary set for this position is £1,300 (pounds sterling) which comes to about \$3,300. This may not be quite right. However, it also carries with it the use of a house. There is a house at Beaumont-Hamel for the caretaker.

Mr. O'KEEFE: There is just one employee?

Mr. MACE: There is the caretaker who has the house and we also employ local Frenchmen on a casual basis to do the work around the grounds as required.

Mr. O'KEEFE: Can you tell me what arrangements are made by the War Graves Commission for the education of employees' children? Are similar arrangements made for employees at Beaumont-Hamel?

Mr. MACE: I am given to understand that there are some arrangements made by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for the education of children of their employees. I only learned of this about a month ago and I have written to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in London, England, to find out exactly what the arrangements are. This was something new to me; and I had never known about it before.

I cannot say categorically that they do or they do not make such arrangements. So far we have not done this, sir, but if the Commonwealth of War Graves Commission do so I will be very interested.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we should get on with Item 15.