

despatch, approximately 50 percent of the personnel of these units were presently absent without leave. A number of these had returned to duty, but the remaining shortage was of the order of 2,400 out of approximately 5,600.

An unpleasant feature was that one unit, due to leave its station for a port of embarkation at 10.30 that night, had staged a "sit-down" strike. The District Officer Commanding was dealing with the matter on the spot and there was no reason to be unduly perturbed with the situation as yet. The fact that the Christmas season was held in some parts of the country to extend until the 6th of January was undoubtedly a contributing factor.

(Departmental memoranda, Jan. 8, 1945).

26. General McNaughton said that he had appointed Lieutenant-General E. W. Sansom, C.B., D.S.O., as Inspector-General of Canadian Forces, for the purpose of investigating and reporting on the reinforcement position of the Canadian Military Forces controlled or administered by or through Canadian Military Headquarters in Great Britain in respect of the availability of reinforcement personnel from time to time, and the training of reinforcement personnel despatched to field units.

(Departmental draft order to General Sansom, Jan. 8, 1945).

27. The War Committee noted with approval the reports of the Minister.

U. S. hospital at The Pas;
acquisition by Mines and Resources

28. The Secretary reported that the U.S. Army had agreed to release to the Canadian government the U.S. military hospital at The Pas and to offer for sale movable equipment connected therewith in accordance with approved procedure.

The Department of Mines and Resources desired to secure the hospital in order to provide treatment for Indians in the northern parts of Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan, suffering from tuberculosis.

Funds for the operation of the hospital had been included in the 1945-46 estimates but no financial provision had been made as yet to cover acquisition. The cost to the Canadian government was not yet known, although the United States had received credit for permanent construction at The Pas under the Exchange of Notes of June 23rd, 1944. It had been estimated that movable equipment and supplies at the hospital might amount to \$50,000.

An explanatory memorandum had been circulated.

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