

(b) To make personal surveys, when necessary, of all cases where the man indicates his desire to be helped to obtain employment and to transmit suggestions on each case to the Provincial Employment Committee or its local sub-committee.

(c) To act as a member of the local "Disabled Soldiers' Training Board" and to transmit its recommendations to the Military Hospitals Commission.

(d) To arrange, through the Advisory Committee on Training or otherwise, for the placing in educational institutions, private workshops, farms, etc., of all men who have been passed for training by the Commission, and to maintain a regular inspection of all such men and report upon each case at stated intervals to the Commission.

(e) To arrange for regular or occasional meetings of the local Disabled Soldiers Training Board, as the circumstances may require.

(f) Such other duties as may be assigned him by the Commission from time to time.

Local Vocational Officers to be associated with the Vocational Branch of the Commission through the Vocational Secretary.

Provision of Employment.

The Provincial Commissions have charged themselves with the duty of assisting the men who return during the progress of the war and after its conclusion to secure employment. In this respect they are acting in co-operation with the Federal Commission, with various Government Departments and with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. Up to the present there has been no difficulty in finding openings for all the men capable of working, in fact many more could be given employment if they were available.

There is likely to be more difficulty in providing employment at the conclusion of the war, when a large number of able-bodied men return to Canada, and the Military Hospitals Commission has under consideration, in conjunction with the Economic and Development Commission, a scheme of land settlement, also plans for the establishment of farms for training purposes, where men who desire to take up land may go for a few months and where those who are unable to find employment directly, may be provided with some occupation during the period of the re-establishment of normal industrial conditions. A conference will shortly be held between the two Commissions named, and the Provincial Governments on these matters. The Governments of Ontario, New Brunswick, and British Columbia are considering land settlement proposals, it being recognized that to carry this out successfully will entail considerable capital expenditure in the initial stages in order to assist those who go on the land to provide the necessary implements and to build a house, barn, etc. The Canadian Pacific Railway has also promulgated a land settlement scheme involving an expenditure of \$3,500,000.

Procedure of Men returned from the Front during the War.

Two charts are appended, showing the exact procedure from the battlefield to final rehabilitation in Canada, of members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, injured or invalided while on active service. Explanatory notes will be found against each chart. It will be seen that the most complete provision has been made to meet, as far as possible, all conditions which may arise. There is a minimum of red tape, and a maximum of real service in connection with the various branches handling the men who have been rendered medically unfit.

On arrival at Quebec, the men are re-examined medically, when necessary, and are then forwarded to their respective destinations. They are classified as follows:—

Class 1.

Men for immediate discharge without a pension.

(a) Unfit for overseas service but capable to take up their previous civilian occupation.

(b) Disability not the result of service or involving claim as the result of or aggravation by service.

Class 2.

Men whose condition may be benefitted by further medical treatment or rest in a Convalescent Home, Hospital or Sanatorium. If deemed advisable in some cases the medical officer in charge of the Convalescent Home, Hospital or Sanatorium may grant these men leave to return to their own homes and families for a definite period.

Class 3.

Men having a permanent disability which would not be benefitted by further medical treatment (such disability due to or aggravated by service) and whose cases will immediately be considered by the Pensions Board with a view to pension.

Men in this class will receive whatever benefits special instruction or appliances can give them.

Clothing.

Before leaving the Discharge Depot, all men are supplied with suitable underclothing, of which three

weights are kept; they are also supplied, should they require them, with a new pair of boots of army regulation quality. Men in classes 1 and 3 are furnished with a suit of civilian clothing and cap, or they may be credited with \$8 in lieu thereof. In winter, an overcoat is added, and the allowance in lieu of clothing raised to \$13.

Pay.

Men in Classes 2 or 3 are paid \$10 at Quebec unless the Officer in charge of the Discharge Depot considers that they require a larger sum. A further sum, varying from \$50 to \$100 according to the amount of accrued pay, is forwarded at once to the Paymaster of the Military District to which the man is going.

All men sent to Convalescent Hospitals, Sanatoria or other Institutions are continued on pay at full military rates until discharged. Separation Allowance is also continued for the wives of married men.

Transportation.

Arrangements have been made with the Railway Companies for transportation of returned members of the C.E.F. to their homes in first class cars when the distance is short, and in tourist cars when a night journey is involved. Three meals per day are supplied by the Railway Company at 50 cents each, the bill being paid by the Militia Department.

In every case, telegraphic advice is sent by the officer in charge of the Discharge Depot to the military authorities in the District to which men are going, giving the names of the men and the train by which they are travelling. Further advice is sent by an officer of the Commission attached to the Discharge Depot, to the Secretaries of the Provincial Commissions. The Railway Companies also co-operate in the matter by permitting their conductors to advise by telegraph, without charge, the Welcome Committees at points en route.

Treatment at Convalescent Hospitals and other Institutions.

Provision has been made by the Commission for the best medical and surgical treatment to be at the disposal, freely, of the men whose injuries or other disabilities permit of improvement. In Toronto and other centres leading Medical and Surgical Specialists are giving free service at the various Hospitals under the Commission. Medical Officers attached to the Department of Militia and Defence are also in daily attendance. When it is considered that a returned soldier can recuperate at his own home, he is allowed to proceed thither, and to report regularly to the Convalescent Hospital or to a Medical Officer approved by the Commission. In these cases, an extra subsistence allowance of 60 cents per day is given by the Department of Militia and Defence.

Provision of Artificial Limbs.

The Commission has established at Toronto a special Orthopaedic centre, to which all men requiring Artificial Limbs will be sent direct from the receiving depot at the port of disembarkation. A workshop for the manufacture of Artificial Limbs will shortly be in operation and it is proposed, as far as possible, to utilize the services of returned men in their manufacture. No expense is being spared in obtaining the most suitable attachments, bearing in mind the occupation of the man himself. It has been recognized that the most expensive arm or leg is not always the most serviceable. It has also been recognized that the Commission can, by undertaking the manufacture of these attachments, obtain the benefit of the latest improvements, some of which are not available for individual firms.

Sanatoria and other Special Institutions.

Arrangements have been made with the principal Sanatoria throughout Canada to receive the men who have contracted tuberculosis, their maintenance being paid by the Government. If, later, it is found necessary to erect a Sanatorium for occupation only by returned soldiers, this will be done. By a recent decision, those who are sent to Sanatoria for a prolonged period, will be kept on pay for 6 months only, and then pensioned. They will, however, be given continued treatment for as long as may be considered necessary by the Medical Officers of the Commission.

The Commission is establishing a Hospital for rheumatic cases where hydropathic and other treatment will be available. It is also establishing an Institution to which men suffering from mental disorders and extreme nervousness, due to shock, may be sent for treatment.

Blinded Soldiers.

It is a matter for congratulation that very few members of the C.E.F. have become totally blind. Those who have lost their sight are first admitted to

the St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Soldiers, Regents Park, London, England, operated by Sir C. A. Pearson. After a period of training they are returned to Canada. Arrangements have been made with the Canadian Free Library for the Blind to furnish books and other literature, in order that study may be continued, and where necessary, men will be sent for further treatment to one of the Blind Institutes already established in Canada. There are now so many occupations which can be followed by a blind man when properly trained, that in most cases, with the assistance of the pension, men who have been thus afflicted will become self-supporting members of the community.

In the case of those who have lost one eye, a glass eye is being provided in England, by the Canadian Medical authorities.

British and other Reservists.

In view of the large number of British and Allied Reservists resident in Canada at the outbreak of the war, the Commission has had to determine its attitude towards these men on their return to Canada, incapacitated through service. While the Commission could not assume any financial obligation towards them, it was decided that, should these men require treatment in a Convalescent Hospital, such treatment should be given. Up to the present, a few cases of this nature have been dealt with, and so far as the Commission is concerned, no difference whatever has been made between them and invalided members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Co-operation with the Department of Militia and Defence.

In all the work of the Commission directed towards the rehabilitation of disabled men, there is the most active and hearty co-operation between the Medical Branch of the Department of Militia and Defence and the Commission. The Assistant Directors of Medical Services in the various Military Districts, together with their Assistants, have been indefatigable in their labours. When it is considered that in Canada no such problem has ever before presented itself for solution, the results secured have been most encouraging.

E. H. SCAMMELL,
Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK LANDS FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS.

The Provincial Government's plan for aiding returned soldiers to settle upon suitable lands in New Brunswick after the war was placed before the Legislature on April 19, by Hon. J. A. Murray.

The Bill referred to the necessity of providing a comprehensive scheme and places its operation under the direction of an Advisory Settlement Board, to be constituted by an act of the Legislature, together with the Farm Settlement Board, which will act under its direction. The members of the Advisory Board are to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council. This Board is to be empowered to purchase such lands within the province, as may be found necessary, the Government to borrow money for that purpose and for advances to settlers, or on their behalf.

PROTECTION TO HOMESTEADERS WHO HAVE ENLISTED FOR ACTIVE SERVICE.

As inquiries have reached the office of the Commission concerning the protection given to Homesteaders who have enlisted for active service, the Secretary addressed a letter to the Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior, regarding a specific case. After referring to correspondence which had taken place with the Department regarding this man, the Secretary said:—

"This young man has now returned invalided and is not in a fit condition to take up his homestead duties. It will probably be some time before he can do this. He is anxious to run no risk of losing his patent.

"There is likely to be a number of cases of this nature where men who return from the Front are unable to complete the regulation duties, some of them temporarily, and some permanently. These men must not be allowed to lose their patents. If you desire I will submit the question for the ruling of the Minister, but I should like your view regarding the following:—

(1) "Will the present regulations protect a man who has returned from Overseas service but who has not been discharged from the service because his disability is likely to improve through Convalescent Home treatment?"