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BULLETIN OF INFORMATION

ISSUED BY

THE MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION OF CANADA

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REPORT OF MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION.

The Military Hospitals Commission was formed at the instance of the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Sir Robert L. Borden, P.C., G.C.M.G., by Order in Council, dated June 30, 1915, its powers being extended by Order in Council, dated October 12, 1915. Following are some of the clauses of the Commission's charter:—

1. That a Commission, hereafter to be called the "Military Hospitals and Convalescent Homes Commission," the short title of which shall be the "Military Hospitals Commission," be appointed to deal with the provision of Hospital accommodation and Military Convalescent Homes in Canada, for Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who return invalided from the front, and for Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men invalided while on active service in Canada, Bermuda, or elsewhere.

2. That the Commission be empowered to select Medical and Nursing Staffs, and to appoint such other personnel as may be needed for the management of Hospitals and Homes; provided that a general schedule of pay and allowances be submitted for approval by the Governor in Council.

3. That it be empowered to recommend to the Governor in Council any expenditure which it may consider necessary for the treatment and care of the sick and wounded, including the purchase of supplies and equipment, or for the organization, administration and maintenance of Hospitals and Homes and to expend any monies for the purposes and to the amount authorized from time to time by the Governor in Council.

4. That it be empowered to call in the aid of any Department of the Federal Administration; in particular to use the machinery of the Militia Department, and where desirable, to draw on that Department for supplies, stores and equipment and to utilize the services of Divisional and District Staffs.

5. That any expenditure incurred by the Commission under the authority of the Governor in Council be made a charge against the War Appropriation Vote, or when that ceases to be operative, against any other available appropriation made by Parliament for the purpose.

6. That it be empowered to accept such funds, bequests and legacies as may be given or devised by individuals or Corporations or others, with authority, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, to make all expenditure, and to administer any funds, bequests or legacies on behalf of such members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, as in the judgment of the Commission may be entitled thereto, and for the purpose of carrying out such objects and purposes as may be determined by the Commission.

7. That it be empowered to deal with the question of employment for members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force on their return to Canada, and to co-operate with Provincial Governments and others, for the purpose of providing employment as may be deemed necessary.

The Commission early recognized that its work fell under three main headings:—

(a) The provision of Convalescent Hospitals and Homes in different parts of the Dominion.

(b) The provision of vocational training for those who through their disability incurred on active service, would be unable to follow their previous occupations.

(c) The establishment of the necessary machinery for the provision of employment for those who require vocational training and for those who will return during and at the conclusion of the war.

Convalescent Hospitals and Homes.

It is a matter for congratulation that offers were received by the Commission from all parts of Canada, of Public Institutions and Private Houses, a large proportion without any charge for rental, for Convalescent Home purposes. In view of the limited number of wounded and invalided men returning during the summer of 1915, it was not found possible to accept more than a few of these offers. The places selected were decided upon on account of their location and their adequacy to meet requirements, consideration being given to the number of men it would be possible to accommodate in each building. At first it was thought that a large number of small Convalescent Homes would be the best method of meeting the situation. As the numbers returning increased, however, it was found that these isolated and scattered homes would not make for the most efficient and economical administration. It was thought that a majority of the men would require rest and recreation, whereas experience has shown that active therapeutic and orthopaedic treatment is necessary. Hence, many of the offers of Homes which have been received, and for which the Commission is deeply grateful, will not be accepted.

It must not be presumed, however, that the Commission is relying to any large extent upon private philanthropy for the establishment, equipment and maintenance of the Convalescent Homes, though it has welcomed the assistance tendered by various organizations and by public spirited citizens throughout the Dominion. There are many people who have been unable to contribute directly to the prosecution of the war, who have been glad of the opportunity to do something for the men who have suffered in the defence of our national liberties. The work of looking after the returned men has, in many cases, provided an excellent outlet for these activities. The saving of expense to the Government is a comparatively small matter. The men in the Convalescent Homes are maintained, and their pay also continues. The Commission realizes fully its responsibility to see that every opportunity is given to those who return wounded or invalided to recover to the fullest extent in the shortest possible time. Where electric and other apparatus is likely to facilitate this, such installations are being made.

The Hospitals and Homes at present in operation, together with the accommodation available in these institutions, are as follows:—

Ross Military Convalescent Hospital, Sydney, N.S. Accommodation 45. Provided by Mr. and Mrs. J. K. L. Ross, who have also paid the entire cost of maintenance since the Home was opened.

Parks Military Convalescent Hospital, St. John, N.B.—Accommodation 35. Lent to the Commission, rent free, by Mrs. Louisa Parks, of St. John. A large proportion of the equipment has been provided by the Womens' Canadian Club of St. John, assisted by the local Returned Soldiers' Aid Committee.

Beauvoir Manor Military Convalescent Hospital, Quebec.—This residence, which is the home of Mrs. R. R. Dobell, of Quebec, was, with its spacious grounds, placed freely at the disposal of the Commission. A large number of men were in residence there during the summer and autumn of 1915. The Hospital was closed at the beginning of the winter.

Savard Park Military Convalescent Hospital, Quebec.—Accommodation 150. This Hospital, which is the property of the Immigration Branch of the Department of the Interior, has, with its equipment and staff, been lent to the Commission. Situated as it is, at the principal port of disembarkation, it has proved to be of great service to the Commission. Dr. Pagé, the Chief Medical Officer for the Immigration Branch of the Department of the Interior in Quebec, the Medical Officer in charge, and his two assistants, have been indefatigable in their services to the men who have been quartered there.

Khaki League Military Convalescent Hospital, Belmont Park, Montreal.—Accommodation 44. This hospital was secured, equipped, and has been maintained by the Khaki League, Montreal, the Commission granting a per diem allowance for the men who are sent there.

St. George's Annex, Montreal.—Accommodation 55. Lent by the St. George's Society of Montreal. It is at present being used by the Commission as a vocational training centre for the men undergoing treatment in the two Khaki League Hospitals.

Khaki Home, 128 McTavish Street, Montreal.—This Home has been elegantly furnished by public spirited citizens in Montreal. It is operated by the Khaki League in the same manner as the Belmont Park Hospital.

Grey Nuns Hospital, Montreal.—Accommodation 125. Some months ago the Sisters of Charity, General Hospital, Montreal, most generously undertook to place the new wing of their hospital at the disposal of the Commission. The offer was accepted and the Institution is being operated on a per diem allowance, the Sisters of Charity providing the nursing and other services.

Sir Sandford Fleming Military Convalescent Hospital, Ottawa.—Accommodation 72. The Executors of the late Sir Sandford Fleming, who generously tendered to the Commission, for use as a Convalescent Hospital, their residence at 213 Chapel street, Ottawa. They also left numerous articles of furniture. The Voluntary Aid Detachment of the St. John Ambulance Association, assisted by the Womens' Canadian Club, the I.O.D.E., and other Ladies' Organizations, provided a considerable proportion of the furnishing.

Elmhurst Military Convalescent Hospital, Kingston.—Accommodation 50. Lent to the Commission by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh MacPherson of Kingston. The I.O.D.E. and other organizations of Kingston assisted the Commission in furnishing.

Richardson Military Convalescent Hospital, Kingston.—Accommodation 35. After it was found that the accommodation at "Elmhurst" was not sufficient, Mr. H. W. Richardson placed his residence at the disposal of the Commission.

Longwood Military Convalescent Hospital, Toronto.—Accommodation 25. Lent to the Commission by Mrs. C. W. Beatty of Toronto who furnished and equipped it throughout before handing it over to the Commission.

Central Military Convalescent Hospital, Toronto.—Accommodation 130. To date this is the largest Institution operated by the Commission. It is situated in the old Bishop Strachan school, a valuable property in the centre of the city, which has been lent, rent free, by the owners. The city of Toronto undertook to carry out some of the alterations necessary and the people of Toronto, under the guidance of the Voluntary Aid Committee, of which Mr. W. K. George, is chairman, assisted in the furnishing and equipment of the building. Included in the equipment are:—

Wappler X-ray Machine.

High-frequency Apparatus with 15 different electrodes.

Electric Cradle for applying heat to the back or a small portion of limb.

Electric Cabinet Bath.

Wall plates for giving galvanic and Faradic treatment, and for testing muscle reactions.

Electric Iron for applying heat to special parts of the body.

In addition to the above, Mr. Frank Davies, who is in charge of the massage department, has loaned his Violet Ray apparatus, Medical Battery, Therapeutic Ruby Lamp and Electric Vibrator.

In the Mechano-therapeutic Department is a full equipment of Zander machines, including a cycle which is for flexion and extension of the ankles. Similar apparatus is also in this department for the circumduction of ankles, as well as for toes and flat feet. In addition, there is a gymnasium plinth, which includes flying rings, stall bars, etc., for the treatment of stiffened joints of the trunk and upper extremities.

In the Hydro-therapeutic Department is a control table, showers, needles, shampoos, continuous baths, and a vapour bath worked by the Tyranauer system.

The plant is in full swing and the results are exceedingly satisfactory. At the present time over eighty treatments are being given each week.

Spadina Military Convalescent Hospital, Toronto.—The Commission has secured the use of the old Knox College, Spadina avenue, Toronto. About \$15,000 is being spent on alterations and improvements. It will be ready for occupation in the near future. The accommodation will be about 250.

Victoria Military Convalescent Hospital, Hamilton.—Accommodation 35. Lent to the Commission fully equipped, rent free, by Mr. Stanley Mills and Partners. It is one of the old Hamilton residences and is admirably adapted for Convalescent Home purposes.

Belvidere Military Convalescent Hospital, London.—Accommodation 35. The residence of Lt.-Colonel A. M. Smith. Colonel Smith has turned the whole building over, with a considerable amount of furniture, to the Commission, rent free. It is an ideal place for a Convalescent Home.

Central Military Convalescent Hospital, London.—Accommodation 130. The Board of the Victoria Hospital, London, in order to provide the accommodation necessary for the large number of men in that District, offered to vacate the central part of the building, if the Commission would erect an Isolation Building in the grounds and would make certain other structural alterations. This is being done and an up to date complete Convalescent Hospital has been turned over to the Commission. The men undergoing treatment will have the advantage of such apparatus and equipment as is in the General Hospital.

Keefer Military Convalescent Hospital, Port Arthur.—Accommodation 25. Lent, furnished, to the Commission by Mr. Frank Keefer, K.C., of Thorold, Ont. Mrs. Hugh Keefer has undertaken the duties of Honorary Superintendent and is now in charge of the Home.

Winnipeg.—Early in the summer of 1915, the I.O.D.E., of Winnipeg, equipped a Convalescent Home in a building owned by the Hudson's Bay Company. The Commission paid the rent of this building, \$150 per month, and made a per diem allowance to the I.O.D.E., for the men in the Home, the I.O.D.E. providing the necessary personnel for service.

In January, 1916, it was necessary to close this Home, owing to its being over-crowded and also to the difficulty of heating the building. The men were removed to the Immigration Building where they have since been in residence.

Mr. R. J. Mackenzie has now lent the Deer Lodge Hotel, owned by him, to the Commission and this building will shortly be ready for use as a Military Convalescent Hospital. It is splendidly adapted for this purpose, as it stands in extensive grounds which will be utilized for training in agricultural and horticultural pursuits. It will accommodate 130.

St. Chad's Military Convalescent Hospital, Regina.—Accommodation 70. The Synod of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, the owners of the St. Chad's College, Regina, have placed this Institution at the disposal of the Commission, and the college is now in use as a Convalescent Hospital.

The Commission is greatly indebted to Mr. S. S. Scott, Honorary Secretary of the Regina Returned Soldiers' League and to the Committee associated with him, for the splendid work done in connection with the equipment of this Hospital, also for the interest the Committee is continuing to take in the management of the Institution and the welfare of the inmates.

Ogden Military Convalescent Hospital, Calgary.—Accommodation 140. The Calgary Malting and Brewing Company, owners of the Ogden Hotel, offered the use of this building, together with its equipment and plant, to the Alberta Branch of the Red Cross

Society, for a Convalescent Home. The Red Cross Society is in charge of the supply of rations and other work under the Commission, a per diem allowance being paid.

Esquimalt Military Convalescent Hospital, Victoria.—Accommodation 100. The Department of Naval Service has lent to the Commission the Old Naval Hospital, at Esquimalt, which has now been converted into a modern Military Convalescent Hospital.

Mr. J. S. H. Matson, a member of the Commission, resident in Victoria, has rendered signal service in the preparation of this building and in its maintenance, since it has been occupied by the Commission.

Creation of Provincial Commissions.

At the instance of the President, the Honourable Senator Lougheed, a report was prepared by the Secretary, containing definite proposals for the installation of the necessary machinery throughout the Dominion for dealing with the problems of employment and vocational training. This report was published by the Government as a Sessional Paper, in October, 1915, (No. 35a).

The Returned Soldiers were divided into the following classes:—

Class 1.—Able-bodied men for whom the situations and positions they left have been kept open by patriotic employers.

Class 2.—Able-bodied men who were out of work at the time of enlistment or who have been superseded in their absence; and invalided and wounded men similarly situated who will become able-bodied after a period of rest in a Convalescent Home.

Class 3.—Invalided and wounded men who are unable to follow their previous occupation by reason of their disability, but who will be capable, after proper training, to take up other work.

Class 4.—Men who are permanently disabled, and will be unable to earn their own living under any circumstances.

On October 18 and 19, 1915, a Conference was held between the Military Hospitals Commission and the Governments of the Provinces on the invitation of the Right Honourable the Prime Minister.

This Conference was attended by the following representatives of the Provincial Governments:—

Hon. W. H. Hearst, Premier of Ontario.

Hon. George J. Clarke, Premier of New Brunswick.

Hon. T. C. Norris, Premier of Manitoba.

Hon. J. A. Mathieson, Premier of Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Walter Scott, Premier of Saskatchewan.

Hon. E. H. Armstrong, Commissioner of Works and Mines, Nova Scotia.

Hon. J. L. Decarie, Provincial Secretary, Quebec.

Hon. Walter Mitchell, Provincial Treasurer, Quebec.

Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Acting Minister of Education, Ontario.

Hon. Dr. Thornton, Minister of Education, Manitoba.

Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Railways and Highways, Saskatchewan.

Hon. F. A. Turgeon, Provincial Treasurer, Saskatchewan.

Hon. C. R. Mitchell, Provincial Treasurer, Alberta.

Professor F. H. Sexton, Director of Technical Education, Nova Scotia.

The following Memorandum was adopted:—

The representatives of the several provinces, in attendance at the conference, agree to submit for approval to their respective Governments the following suggestions, regarding the various problems involved in taking care of and finding employment for members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who return to Canada during the period of the War.

In case upon consideration the Government of any Province deems it advisable to alter or amend any of their suggestions, or make any further suggestions, it shall immediately forward notice thereof to the Provincial Secretary of each of the other Provinces of Canada, with a view to having the same approved by the Governments of such other Provinces.

SUGGESTIONS.

1. The Military Hospitals Commission should undertake to assist and advise all provincial or local committees or organizations with respect to the best methods and plans to be adopted to attain the objects in view.

2. The Government of each province should appoint a central provincial committee consisting of such number of members as each province may deem advisable.

3. All expenditures necessary in connection with the organization and administration of provincial and other purely local committees should be borne by the provincial or local authorities, or by voluntary contributions.

4. Each of the provinces of Canada working through its central committee should assume the responsibility of endeavouring to find employment for discharged soldiers, who, upon their return to Canada, are physically and otherwise fit to assume such employment. All expenditures necessary in undertaking the duty should be borne by the province.

5. The Military Hospitals Commission should assume the responsibility of taking care of and providing for all returned soldiers who for any cause are incapacitated for employment, or who require special training or treatment before being able to undertake any employment.

6. With a view to assisting the Commission in the discharge of its responsibilities in this regard, each provincial central committee should be constituted as a branch sub-committee of the Commission, and should be under its direction. One of the members of the committee to be designated by the Provincial Government should be ex-officio a member of the Commission.

7. Through its central committee each province should furnish to the Commission a detailed statement of the institutions and facilities within its borders which will be available for the purpose of taking care of and providing for the various classes of returned soldiers referred to in suggestion No. 5, including all necessary particulars regarding the accommodation available, and the terms and conditions under which such institutions and facilities may be made use of for the purpose mentioned under provincial and local administration.

8. All expenditures necessary in connection with carrying out the responsibilities referred to in suggestion No. 5 should be borne by the Military Hospitals Commission, except such as are agreed upon by the respective provinces in the detailed statements to be furnished to the Commission under suggestion No. 7.

FUTURE PROBLEMS.

In the above suggestions the conference has attempted to deal only with those problems which are pressing for the moment. There are, however, two other problems which demand attention. The first of them relates to the advisability of devising a practical method of placing returned soldiers on the land, under such conditions as will enable them to provide comfortably for themselves and families, this problem is so complex in its character that it would seem advisable to make it the subject of a special inquiry to be instituted by the Federal authorities. The other problem relates to the finding of employment for the large number of soldiers who, within a short space of time, will return to Canada upon the conclusion of the War. It is suggested that the Commission as well as the Provincial authorities should give the question their consideration with a view to arriving at a possible solution thereof at a subsequent conference.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the conference desires to assure the Military Hospitals Commission that the Provincial Governments of Canada are in hearty sympathy with the movement for making suitable provision for returned soldiers, and will endeavour in every possible manner to facilitate the work of the Commission by arranging to place at the disposal of the Commission such Provincial institutions and facilities as are available for the purpose.

Action was taken immediately after the conclusion of this Conference by the various Provincial Governments, and Commissions were formed, in accordance with the above recommendations. The following are the names and personnel of these Commissions:—

Ontario.—Ontario Soldiers' Aid Commission. Members:—

W. D. McPherson, Esq., K.C., M.P.P., Toronto, Chairman.

John B. Laidlaw, Esq., Toronto.

Robert J. Christie, Esq., Toronto.

William Banks, Esq., Toronto.

Honourable Senator Gordon, North Bay.

Kenneth W. McKay, Esq., St. Thomas.

Ernest J. Henderson, Esq., Windsor.

W. F. Nickle, Esq., M.P., Kingston.

George Lynch Staunton, Esq., K.C., Hamilton.

W. L. Best, Esq., Ottawa.

J. Warwick, Esq., Secretary.

Quebec.—Soldiers' Employment Commission. Members:—

Honourable Geo. A. Simard, Montreal, Chairman.

Alphonse Verville, Esq., M.P., Maisonneuve.

Honourable G. E. Amyot, M.L.C., Quebec.

Smeaton White, Esq., Montreal.

Jas. A. McManamy, Esq., Quebec.

A. K. Cameron, Esq., Westmount.

J. K. Edwards, Esq., Sherbrooke.

Phi. L. Lasonde, Esq., Three Rivers.

Fernand Rinfret, Esq., Montreal, Honorary Secretary.

W. G. Mackenzie, Esq., Montreal, Honorary Secretary.

J. Pye, Esq., Secretary.

Nova Scotia.—Returned Soldiers' Employment Committee. Members:—

Honourable R. M. McGregor, New Glasgow, Chairman.

Sir Frederick Fraser, Halifax.

Honourable Mr. Justice Harris, Halifax.

John J. Joy, Esq., Halifax.

D. H. McDougall, Esq., Glace Bay.

Thomas J. Brown, Esq., Sydney Mines.

Honourable John S. McLennan, Sydney.

G. Fred. Pearson, Esq., Halifax.

F. H. Sexton, Esq., B.Sc., Halifax.

William R. Wakeley, Esq., Halifax.

Wensley B. MacCoy, Esq., LL.B., Secretary.

New Brunswick.—The Returned Soldiers' Aid Commission. Members:—

Thomas Bell, Esq., St. John, Chairman.

Honourable J. B. M. Baxter, St. John.

T. Carleton Allen, Esq., LL.D., Fredericton.

J. E. Masters, Esq., Moncton.

Dr. L. M. Bourque, Moncton.

R. V. Bennett, Esq., Hopewell Cape.

T. M. Burns, Esq., Bathurst.

L. A. Gagnon, Esq., Edmundston.

J. L. Sugrue, Esq., St. John.

John H. Peat, Esq., Andover.

J. D. Creaghan, Esq.

Donald Munro, Esq., Secretary.

Manitoba.—Returned Soldiers' Manitoba Commission. Members:—

Sir Daniel McMillan, K.C.M.G., Chairman.

Honourable T. C. Norris, Winnipeg.

R. D. Waugh, Esq., Mayor of Winnipeg.

A. M. Nanton, Esq., Winnipeg.

J. H. Ashdown, Esq., Winnipeg.

G. V. Hastings, Esq., Winnipeg.

G. W. Allan, Esq., Winnipeg.

J. S. Willmott, Esq., Brandon.

Lieut. Colonel C. W. Rowley, Winnipeg.

T. Hooper, Esq., J.P., Winnipeg.

F. J. Baker, Esq., Winnipeg.

Albert Pearce, Esq., Secretary.

British Columbia.—Provincial Returned Soldiers' Commission. Members:—

Honourable H. E. Young, M.D., LL.D., M.P.P.

A. Stewart, Esq., Mayor of Victoria.

A. W. Gray, Esq., Mayor of New Westminster.

A. E. Planta, Esq., Mayor of Nanaimo.

Alderman R. H. Gale, Vancouver.

A. C. Burdick, Esq., Victoria.

E. W. Hamber, Esq., Vancouver.

J. H. Hill, Esq., Secretary.

Prince Edward Island.—The Returned Soldiers' Commission. Members:—

Honourable J. A. Mathieson, Chairman.

Frank R. Hartz, Esq., Charlottetown.

Charles Lyons, Esq., Charlottetown.

Honourable Aubin E. Arseneault, Summerside.

Neil McLeod, Esq., Summerside.

John A. Macdonald, Esq., Cardigan.

James D. Stewart, Esq., Georgetown.

Miss Nellie Gillespie, Secretary.

Saskatchewan.—The Saskatchewan Division, Military Hospitals Commission. Members:—

Hon. Mr. Justice Elwood, Regina, Chairman.

His Worship the Mayor of Regina.

His Worship the Mayor of Saskatoon.

His Worship the Mayor of Moosejaw.

J. W. Smith, Esq., Regina.

R. H. Chadwick, Esq., Moosejaw.

J. A. Maharg, Esq., Moosejaw.

G. Harmon Jones, Esq., Secretary.

Alberta.—The Central Provincial Committee of the Military Hospitals Commission. Members:—

Honourable Chas. W. Fisher, Cochrane, Chairman.

M. C. Costello, Esq., Mayor of Calgary.

W. T. Henry, Esq., Mayor of Edmonton.

Alex. Ross, Esq., Calgary.

H. W. Wood, Esq., Carstairs.

Howard Stutchbury, Esq., Secretary.

The Provision of Vocational Training.

The necessity for providing vocational training for those men who on account of their disability are unable to follow their previous occupations has been carefully considered by the Commission. It has been recognized by the public of Canada that it is not sufficient to grant a man a pension and to leave him to follow his own course, but that where it is possible to educate him for some new calling such education should be given at public expense. Investigation has been made into the methods adopted in England, France, the United States and elsewhere, and various conferences have been held with prominent Technical Educationists and others. As a result the following procedure is being adopted; schools are being operated in the various Convalescent Hospitals and Homes where training of an elementary nature is given in English, French, mechanical drawing, arithmetic, wood-carving, etc. Reports appearing in this bulletin show the interest which is being taken by the men in these classes.

The classes are open to all inmates of homes and to out-patients who are attending for medical treatment, irrespective of whether they will be able to follow their previous occupations, or not.

Arrangements are being made for special vocational training in connection with the various technical institutions, agricultural colleges, schools of telegraphy and other educational organizations for training men who require to be taught some new occupation. It has been laid down by the Commission that this training is only to be given to those who cannot follow their previous occupations because of disability sustained on active service.

In view of the fact that, in Canada, education is under the authority of the Provincial Governments, a plan of organization set forth in the memorandum given below is being put into effect, except in those provinces where the Government, through the Provincial Commission, has requested the Military Hospitals Commission to carry on the work through its vocational officer. In all cases the cost of training, where this involves expenditure on the part of the Provincial Educational authorities, and the salaries of teachers specially appointed, are borne by the Military Hospitals Commission, also the cost of maintenance of the men undergoing training.

MEMORANDUM.

The facilities for training disabled soldiers referred to in this memorandum are intended to apply only to men whose disability, incurred on service, is such that they cannot follow their previous occupations, except that all men undergoing treatment in any of the Military Convalescent Homes and Hospitals under the Commission may be given instruction in general subjects and elementary vocational training while they are inmates or out-patients of such Homes or Hospitals.

In order to carry out such a scheme with efficiency and economy, it would seem necessary to provide for:—

1. A Board or Boards competent to consider and determine who would be fit subjects for such training;

2. A body for each Province which would have general advisory powers for the co-ordination of local efforts and for securing the co-operation of training and educational institutions;

3. Vocational Officers who would be in immediate charge of the work in each locality.

The following procedure is suggested:—

1. BOARD TO CONSIDER WHO WOULD BE FIT SUBJECTS FOR TRAINING.

The Commission to arrange for a Board or Boards, as may be deemed necessary, each of three persons, to be termed a "Disabled Soldiers' Training Board," in each place where it may be deemed necessary. The Board to consist of:—

(a) A Member of the Provincial Advisory Committee.

(b) A Vocational Officer.

(c) A Medical man.

NOTE.—As the training of disabled men for new occupations is likely to involve a considerable sum of money for the support of men and their dependents (if any) and, in many cases for tuition, each case for training should be considered individually on its merits.

Duties of Board.

(a) To consider all cases which, in the light of the medical reports, appear to be subjects for special training and to report upon each, with suitable recommendations, to the Military Hospitals Commission.

(b) To consider from time to time reports of the progress of men undergoing training and to make recommendations as to change of treatment, or of training, or its discontinuance.

2. PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF TRAINING.

The Provincial Commission to be asked to nominate suitable persons in each province to act as an Advisory Committee on the training of disabled soldiers.

The personnel of a Provincial Advisory Committee might include:—

(a) Some person acquainted with the processes of education.

(b) An agricultural educationist.

(c) An employer.

(d) A labour representative.

Duties of a Provincial Advisory Committee on Training.

(a) To prepare, with the assistance of the Vocational Officer, schemes of instruction in general subjects and elementary vocational training, in, or in connection with the Convalescent Homes or Hospitals of the Province, for the approval of the Military Hospitals Commission, which may then sanction the expenditure involved in any scheme, or suggest modifications, or otherwise, of the scheme.

(b) To organize and carry out such schemes as may be approved by the Military Hospitals Commission.

(c) To maintain a regular inspection, preferably through the Vocational Officer, of all instruction being carried on under schemes approved by the Military Hospitals Commission.

(d) To make a survey of the facilities at present, and from time to time, available for vocational training in (a) public educational institutions; (b) private educational institutions; and (c) private workshops, farms, etc.

(e) To assist the Employment Commission by providing definite information as to the training received by men who desire assistance in obtaining employment.

(f) To appoint or approve local sub-committees on training in connection with local Employment Committees in centres where it may appear to be necessary to have such a Committee.

(g) Generally, to advise and assist in the training of returned soldiers in every possible way.

3. OFFICERS IN IMMEDIATE CHARGE OF THE WORK IN EACH LOCALITY.

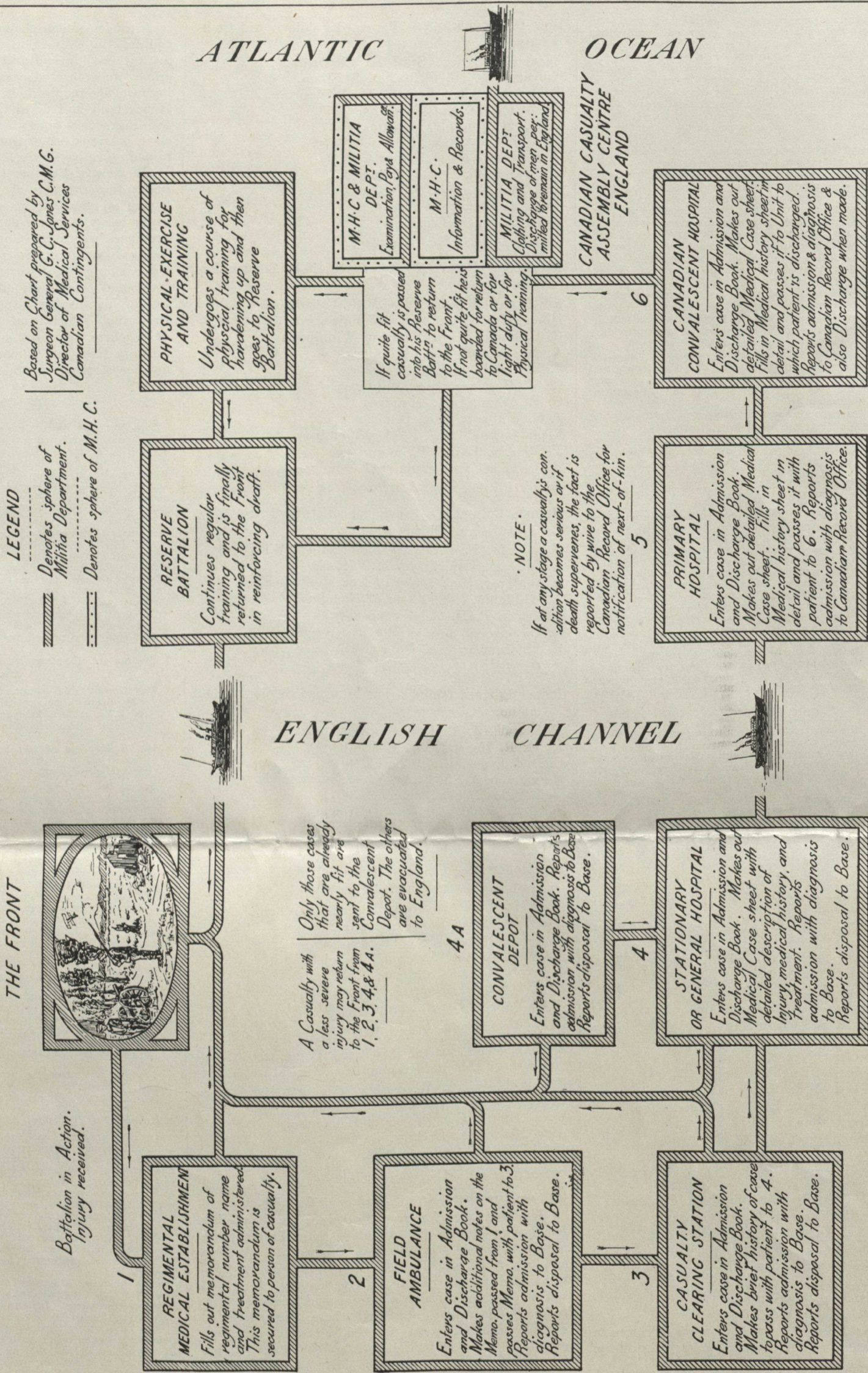
The Military Hospitals Commission to appoint qualified persons, to be termed Vocational Officers, whose sphere of work may extend over one or more Provinces; every such officer to be ex-officio a member of and to act as Executive Officer of the Advisory Committee on training in the Province or Provinces to which he may be assigned.

Duties of a Vocational Officer.

(a) To act in co-operation with the Advisory Committee on training of the province, or provinces, to which he may be assigned, as indicated in Section 2.

CHART

SHOWING MOVEMENT AND MEDICAL RECORD OF A TYPICAL CANADIAN CASUALTY INJURED AT THE FRONT



Explanatory Notes of Canadian Casualty Chart.

Base sends a daily Nominal Roll of admissions and discharges at 2, 3, 4, and 4a, together with diagnoses, to the Canadian Record Office, London. Hospitals at 5 and 6 make similar daily reports to the same office.

The Canadian Record Office combines these reports in a daily Canadian Casualty List.

From this list, the Director of Medical Services, Canadians, makes a card for each casualty when he first appears in a hospital. This card shows Name, Regimental Number, Corps or Unit, Diagnosis, Hospital and date admitted. The hospital and date admitted are posted on the card at each succeeding admission and the death is posted if it supervenes. Finally, when the casualty is discharged from medical care, the fact is posted.

The card which is filed away alphabetically by name, enables the patient to be located at any stage of his medical case, and will enable his medical history to be located in hospital records in the future.

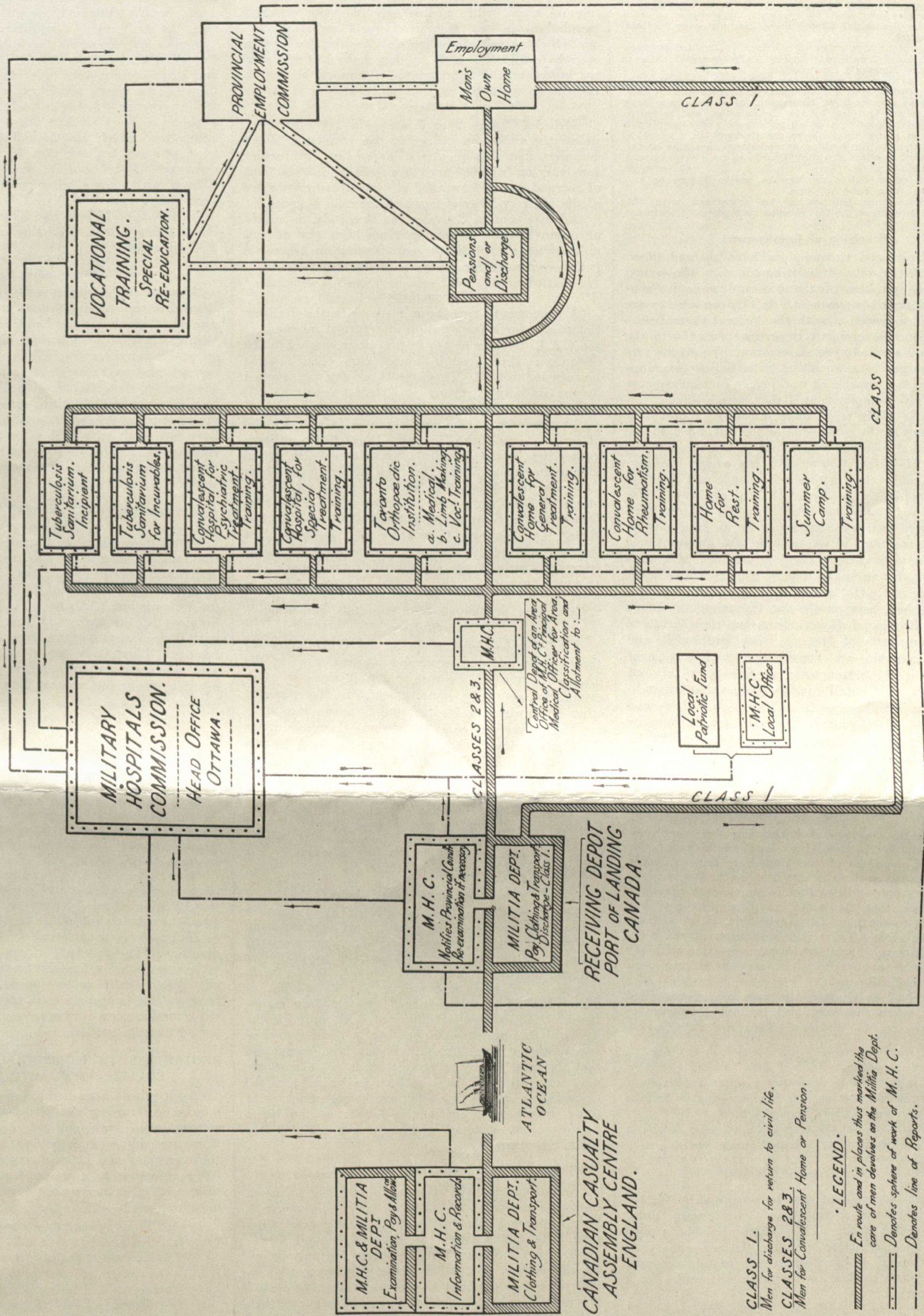
All admission and discharge books from 2 to 6 and all medical case sheets when three months old, pass to the National Research Society, London, who have established a Medical Statistics Bureau for the War Office. Card records summarizing each case are made and from these cards various groupings will be done, for compilations and analyses, for the health report of the Army during the period of the War.

The Canadian report will be made by the Director of Medical Services, Canadians, from the cards for Canadians which will be segregated.

The statistical volume of the Canadian Medical History of the War will also be based on these records.

The medical history sheet of each Canadian is usually begun in Canada and forwarded with the soldier to England. If this has not been done, it is begun on his arrival in England and it follows the soldier as long as he is in England, his medical history being posted on the sheet as it develops. When he proceeds to the Seat of War, the sheet is forwarded to the Canadian Record Office for safe custody. When the soldier returns to England as a casualty the original sheet is forwarded to the hospital he enters, in order to connect with him and his additional history is posted, the sheet following the man wherever he goes and receiving additional posting as necessary.

MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION OF CANADA



Explanatory Notes.

The course of a convalescent soldier on return to Canada may be followed on the above chart. On arrival at the port of disembarkation the Militia Department and the Commission take him in hand. His pay, clothing and transport, together with his re-examination, if necessary, are dealt with at the receiving depot. If he is a Class 1 man, he is given 15 days pay and transportation to his home, together with free meals en route. If he is a Class 2 or Class 3 man, he is passed to the Central Depot of the area to which he is going. In the case of an ordinary convalescent, this is the

nearest area to his place of residence, but where special treatment is required, the area nearest to the Institution to which he is to be sent. In the former case it is then determined whether he shall be sent to a Convalescent Home or other Institution, or whether he may be allowed to convalesce at his own home.

Institutions have been, or are being established by the Commission for the various purposes shown on the chart. A Class 3 man may go to the Orthopedic Institution at Toronto, in order that he may be fitted with an artificial limb if he requires it, or if he will not be benefited by further treatment, he proceeds direct to pension and discharge.

After discharge, men in classes 2 or 3, if they are unable to follow their previous occupations on account of disability incurred on active service, may receive vocational training and special re-education. After discharge, or after vocational training, men are passed to the Provincial Employment Commission for the purpose of securing work.

A complete system of reports has been instituted, starting from the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre in England, by which the head office of the Commission is in close touch with each of the institutions for the treatment of invalids, the vocational training centre, and the Provincial Employment Commissions.

(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?"

(2) "Will the present regulations protect a man who has returned from Overseas service, and has been discharged by the Military Authorities but has been placed on pay by the Military Hospitals Commission in order that he may receive special Vocational training, either along agricultural, or some other lines? This training is only to be given to men who are unable to follow their previous occupations because of their disability.

(3) "Has any regulation been passed under which a Homesteader who has been injured on active service or invalidated out of the service and who, through his disability, will be permanently prevented from fulfilling his homestead duties, can be excused from performing the remainder of these duties, and given a complete patent?"

The following reply has been received from the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior:—

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter asking to be informed in the matter of the regulations framed to meet the case of settlers who, as a result of wounds received while on active service, are physically unable to fulfil the requirements of the Dominion Lands Act.

"In reply I beg to advise you that Section 22 of the Act provides for the protection of the entry of a settler on active service and for three months after his discharge, to permit him to resume residence. Moreover, the time spent on active service is counted to his credit as residence actually upon the homestead. In this manner, were a settler on active service for a sufficient length of time he would automatically complete his residence duties without having performed any actual residence on the land. Notwithstanding the foregoing, every settler on active service, is expected to complete (on his return, if the work was not done before he left) the requisite cultivation duties, or arrange with someone to undertake the work on his behalf during his absence on active service.

"The foregoing Section makes no provision for men who make homestead entry subsequent to the date of enlistment, and to meet such cases, an Order in Council has been passed authorizing the Department to protect the entries of all such for the duration of the War, or at least for the term of their military service. The time spent on active service, however, does not count as residence on the homestead, as in the case of men who made homestead entry before enlistment.

"Furthermore, in the event of the total disability of an entrant, by wounds received in action, or because of illness resulting therefrom, or from any other cause, after his enrolment as a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, Section 23 of the Act provides for the issue of Letters Patent in favour of the entrant forthwith, the performance of further settlement duties either as to residence, improvements or cultivation, being dispensed with. Evidence of disability must, however, be furnished, and it rests with the Department to determine whether or not such evidence is sufficient to establish a claim entitling the person concerned to a free patent.

"In the event of the death of an entrant on active service, the Department, on being furnished with a Certificate of Death by the Military Authorities, will issue a free patent either in the name of the deceased entrant, or in that of his personal representative. In the latter case, it would be necessary for the person in whose name Letters Patent were to issue to submit Letters of Administration, assuming the entrant died intestate.

"While the names of settler-soldiers remained on the rolls of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, their entries would be protected for the duration of the War and for three months thereafter, notwithstanding that they might return from overseas to recuperate from wounds received or from illness contracted while at the Front.

"In the case of discharged men, the Department has no authority to grant more than three months protection calculated from the date of discharge, but the question of extending the scope of the Regulations in the matter of protection in the case of disabled soldiers receiving special vocational training will be submitted to the Minister on a concrete case being brought to the attention of the Department."

DEATH OF Mr. F. W. AVERY.

It is very much to be regretted that it is necessary to report that Mr. F. W. Avery of Ottawa, a Member of the Commission passed away on May 11th, at the age of 63. Mr. Avery's interest in the welfare of returned soldiers was most marked. He not only attended the meetings of the Commission, but was constantly in session with the President and the Secretary. His long experience in public matters made his advice and counsel of great value. He will be very much missed by his fellow members on the Commission.

ADDITION TO PERSONNEL OF COMMISSION.

The following gentlemen have been placed on the Military Hospitals Commission by Order in Council:

- F. W. PETERS, Esq., Vancouver, B.C.
- FRANCIS J. SHEPHERD, Esq., M.D., Montreal, Que.
- ROBERT GILL, Esq., Ottawa.

Mr. Peters has rendered splendid service to returned Vancouver soldiers and, in his capacity as President of the Vancouver Club, has been largely instrumental in the establishment of a Returned Soldiers' Club in Vancouver.

Dr. Shepherd is known throughout Canada as a leading Medical Authority.

Mr. Gill has, for many years, been identified with the management of hospitals.

The Commission is very fortunate in having been able to secure the addition to its personnel of these three gentlemen.

CORRECTION.

In the last issue of the Bulletin the name of His Worship, R. D. Waugh, Mayor of Winnipeg, was omitted from the list of Members of the Manitoba Returned Soldiers' Commission. As the Mayor of Winnipeg has taken the keenest interest in the welfare of returned soldiers, he having been one of the principal founders of the Winnipeg Returned Soldiers' Association, the omission of his name from the list of Members of the Manitoba Commission is much to be regretted. There is no man in Western Canada who has proved himself a better friend to the Returned Soldiers, than Mayor Waugh.

TRAINING CLASSES IN CONVALESCENT HOSPITALS AND HOMES.

Report on Instruction, Quebec and Maritime Provinces.

During the month of April, general and technical classes were started for the soldiers in the convalescent homes in Sydney, N.S., Montreal, Que., and St. John, N.B. A class in woodworking had already been begun under the initiative of Mr. W. M. Dobell of the Hospitals Commission at the Savard Park Convalescent Home in Quebec City.

The general classes included penmanship, business English, practical arithmetic, English for French-speaking soldiers, mechanical drawing, woodworking and correspondence courses for a few special students in steam engineering and automobile engineering.

The Handicrafts Guild of Montreal is organizing a staff of voluntary teachers for soldiers who wish special instruction in technical subjects and craft work. This society is also undertaking to sell any work that the soldiers in Montreal may make. A group of women in Quebec city who are trying to establish toymaking as a home industry in Canada offered substantial prizes for the best toys originated and made by soldiers.

At St. John, the Women's Canadian Club has started to equip a woodworking shop in the Parks Military Convalescent Home and pledged its support for the education of the soldiers in the same way as did the Handicrafts Guild in Montreal.

REPORT OF INSTRUCTION, OGDEN MILITARY CONVALESCENT HOME, CALGARY.

Classes were begun on March 20, the first students being five men of foreign birth, and in a short time eighteen men were enrolled. The foreigners are taught English, including writing, spelling and dictation, and the first principles of arithmetic. The English speaking men study writing, arithmetic including rapid calculation; spelling and dictation, and book-keeping. The attempt is made to make every lesson as practical as possible, and to show actual applications, in daily life, of the subjects studied. The muscular or freehand style of writing is taught, as it is the method best suited to the use of adults, and even one-armed men have developed proficiency in this subject. Business problems are studied in the arithmetic class, and the work in book-keeping is supplemented by the study of office equipment. An adding machine has been loaned, and typewriters have been promised, by friends of the school.

REPORTS OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONS. Ontario.

Up to the present 37 Branches have been formed, and in 17 cases the local Branches of The Patriotic Fund have agreed to take on this additional work, for which they are so well qualified, on account of their close association with the work of taking care of the soldiers' families during the time the soldiers are overseas.

The effort, at present, is to secure at least one working branch in each County, if possible in the County Town.

Method that has been adopted for getting in touch with Returned Soldiers.—Immediately upon the receipt of information from Quebec giving the names and addresses of these men, a letter of welcome is dispatched to each, together with a form of reply in which the men are asked to report further details regarding capacity for work, also any troubles which they have had in connection with securing their back pay or pensions. On receipt of this form, completed, any complaint is at once forwarded to Ottawa, and if so desired positions are at once found for them.

Receptions to Returned Men.—In order to facilitate the work of the local committees in getting in touch with the men as they return, so that they may not fall into temptation, the Secretary has now arranged to be informed, as soon as possible, by telegraph, regarding the number of men leaving the Discharge Depot at Quebec, and the points for which they are destined. This information is at once reported to the towns where men are returning so that suitable receptions can be arranged.

Circular letters to Employers of the Province.—In order to "mobilize" the employers of the Province, circular letters and copies of Minutes of the Organization Meeting have been distributed to each Member of the Manufacturers' Association, together with the Mayors or Reeves of each Municipality, asking them for the names and addresses of former employees who have enlisted; whether they could take these men back at the close of the war, if fit for their old positions, and, if partially disabled, whether they could find employment for them, and, in a general way, if they were willing to offer a preference to returned soldiers.

The Manufacturers were also asked to report on any present vacancies in their establishments which might be filled by returned men.

Outside service.—In connection with the work of securing employment for returned men, the system adopted in Toronto, known as "Outside Service," is now in force.

Two returned soldiers have been engaged under Colonel Curran to act as Scouts, in order to visit the men whose names and addresses we have, find out their inclination and abilities, and direct them to establishments which offer positions. This system has proved very satisfactory because it has been found that, if the men were simply informed of vacancies open to them, they frequently neglected to present themselves as applicants and only rarely informed us they had taken the positions.

Work done.—The following is a statement of the disposition of men who have been dealt with by the Ontario Soldiers' Aid Commission, up to April 30:—

Men for whom positions have been obtained..	714
Men who have been sent to interview as to vacancies but who have not reported the result	15
Men on Military duty as guards, etc., estimated..	150
Men who have returned to old positions..	165
Number of positions vacant..	97
Number of men who have applied for employment for whom suitable positions have not yet been found..	16

Lantern slides.—Lantern slides have been placed in the leading theatres and picture houses in the City, and the increased number of positions now offered is, no doubt, a direct result of this form of bringing to the notice of the public the needs of returned soldiers.

Transportation.—In order to make it possible to move men to points where employment is offered it was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary should be authorized to advance transportation where necessary, and this has been done in several cases, with satisfactory results.

Quebec.

Report for the month of April, 1916:—

Number of applications..	56
Given open letters..	20
Given letters to individuals..	36
Open positions, about..	400

According to system in use it is considered that all applicants have been placed.

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.