

Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.—On February 21, 1918, a Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment was appointed; and on May 24, 1918, the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment Department was created by Act of the Dominion Parliament (8-9 Geo. V, c. 42). To this Department was assigned a portion of the duties formerly carried out by the Military Hospitals Commission,¹ the rest being transferred to the Departments of Militia and Defence and Public Works. The Department has the following principal branches: I. Medical, including manufacture and supply of orthopædic appliances; II. Vocational; III. Co-ordination with Department of Labour regarding employment. For purposes of organization the country is divided into ten units, designated "A" to "K" with headquarters respectively at Montreal, Halifax, Kingston, Toronto, Guelph, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver and Fredericton. At each unit the work is in charge of an assistant director, a district vocational officer and a unit medical director with the necessary staffs. The medical care of invalided soldiers is divided roughly into two stages: (1) Before discharge, by the Department of Militia and Defence, (2) after discharge, by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment,—for life if necessary.

The Medical Branch of the Department has the care of the following eight descriptions of cases:

1. All cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. These are discharged from the army, as soon as diagnosed, for treatment under the Department.
2. Permanently insane, epileptics, and feeble-minded.
3. Cases likely to be of long duration and requiring institutional treatment.
4. Manufacture and supply of orthopædic appliances, both major and minor.
5. Cases of recurrence of war disabilities.
6. Medical care of men undergoing industrial re-education.
7. Dental care of (a) ex-soldiers undergoing industrial re-education; (b) cases in institutions under the control of the Department; (c) defects of the teeth due to war service.
8. Out-patients, who are divided into two classes. Those in the first class are unable to work and are in receipt of full pay and allowances, less pension which is continued. Their income is approximately that which they received while on military service. Those in the second class report periodically at clinics for treatment; their pensions are continued, and they receive allowances in accordance with the amount of time lost when reporting.

The Department is operating or using 22 sanatoria for tuberculosis, and two others will be added during the next few months. The Department is also operating six hospitals for general purposes, and has arrangements with between 50 and 60 others. It has one hospital for the insane under its own control and has arrangements with the various provinces for the care and treatment of the insane resident in those provinces.

On March 5, 1919, there were on the strength of the 10 units of the Department 6,227 patients, including 1,547 suffering from tuberculosis; 548 insane; 85 long treatment (e. g.) paralysis; 2,196 in-patients general and 1,851 out-patients general. The Department manufactures artificial limbs and furnishes major and minor orthopædic appliances for all soldiers and ex-soldiers who are entitled to

¹See Canada Year Book, 1916-17, pp. 690-691.