CHAPTER XXVI.—EDUCATION AND RESEARCH*

CONSPECTUS

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A special article entitled "Recent Advances in the Field of Education in Canada" is given at pp. 876-883 of the 1941 edition of the Year Book. This article, in addition to outlining recent trends in elementary, secondary and higher education, provides data on post-school education and the educational services being conducted for the benefit of members of the Armed Forces.

Special Work in Connection with the Armed Forces.—During the war years particularly, there has been a good deal of educational activity, formal as well as informal, which is not recorded in this Chapter. Reference to work under the War Emergency Training Program is made in the Labour Chapter at pp. 716-718. Technical training within the Armed Services is additional to this again. The technical training of a Naval personnel of more than 80,000, an Army personnel of more than 450,000 and an Air Force personnel of more than 200,000 has been in reality an educational enterprise of great proportions. And educational work in the Services has not been only technical in character. Provision was made for general education in the Navy by the establishment of a Department of Naval Education in 1941, in the Air Force by an Education Section established in 1942, and by a Directorate of Army Education in 1943. These in effect supplemented and extended work carried on by the Canadian Legion Educational Services from the early months of the War.

The typical Education Officer in the Services is a university graduate with teaching experience in secondary schools. Duties vary somewhat between the Services, but include in all cases the organization of discussion groups and some responsibility for making educational books available. Through the medium of Canadian Legion Educational Services it is now possible for the Education Officer to direct the men of his unit to correspondence courses at all levels from the most elementary to university graduation. Provincial Departments of Education and universities in all parts of the country have co-operated to make this possible.

By the end of 1943 something like 100,000 men had been discharged from the Armed Forces. Provision for them, and for those who will be demobilized later, to resume their education is being administered by the Rehabilitation Branch of the Department of Pensions and National Health. It is anticipated that the plan will result in a heavy post-war enrolment, especially in universities and technical schools.

^{*}Prepared or revised, except for those parts otherwise indicated, by J. E. Robbins, M.A., Ph.D., Chief, Education Statistics Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This Branch is concerned with compiling and publishing comparable data relating to educational institutions throughout Canada, and to this end co-operates with the provincial Departments of Education. A list of the publications of this Branch will be found in Chapter XXX, under "Education"