

Much of the Air Raid Precaution equipment assembled throughout Canada has been sold through the Corporation. Many portable power pumps have been acquired by small municipalities desirous of developing fire protection where none had previously existed or expanding existing systems. Some of the anti-gas clothing which had been distributed to men trained in decontamination methods has found new uses, such as protective covering when spraying orchards, and for fishermen.

In consumer goods the list of classifications is hardly less extensive. This Division deals largely with all the things required by the individual personally and, in or for the home.

The Department of Veterans Affairs.—In October, 1944, the Department of Veterans Affairs Act and the Department of National Health and Welfare Act were brought into force by proclamation of the Governor in Council. As a consequence the Department of Pensions and National Health ceased to exist; its functions concerning war veterans were assumed by the Department of Veterans Affairs and its functions in respect of national health by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The Department of Veterans Affairs deals exclusively with matters affecting veterans of the Second World War, as well as those of the War of 1914-18 and previous campaigns, and the scope of its activities has been considerably widened. The new Department consists of an Administration Branch, a Rehabilitation Branch, a Treatment Branch, Prosthetic Services, the Veterans' Bureau, the Veterans Insurance Branch, and the Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act Administration. Attached to the Department are the Canadian Pension Commission and the War Veterans' Allowance Board.

The activities of the Rehabilitation Branch have expanded to keep pace with the increased flow of discharges from the Armed Forces. With employment opportunities widespread across Canada, the majority of discharged service personnel are finding remunerative work.

Consequent upon the active participation of Canada's Armed Forces in the battle areas, the work of the Treatment Branch has increased considerably. The necessity for additional hospital accommodation was foreseen and new construction has been undertaken to increase the bed accommodation available to the Department. Construction is continuing and still further plans have been laid to meet eventualities.

The comprehensive and generous measures which the Department of Veterans Affairs is called upon to administer give rise to the confident expectation that the satisfactory re-establishment of Canada's Armed Forces will be achieved. These measures are fully dealt with in Chapter XXII.

Department of National Health and Welfare.—This Department was brought into existence by the Department of National Health and Welfare Act of July 24, 1944. Organization of the Department began officially with the proclamation of the Act on Oct. 18, 1944, under the direction of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the Deputy Minister of National Health and the Deputy Minister of Welfare.

The Health Branch took over, *in toto*, all divisions and functions of "National Health" when the Department of Pensions and National Health was dissolved. The Divisions and Acts administered include: Child and Maternal Hygiene, In-