

Placement and Training of Workers.—In Canada, at its stage of development and with its climatic conditions, a high degree of mobility of labour is essential to economic efficiency. During the War, highly important experience has been gained in the placement and training of workers. After the War, the placement services, training and forward planning in the employment of the labour force will be expanded in scope and improved in quality on the basis of wartime experience and post-war requirements. Payments to workers undergoing approved training are to be at higher rates than unemployment insurance benefits.

Wartime Controls.—During the War, it has been necessary to impose many restrictive controls. The occasion for these controls has been acute scarcity of manpower and other economic resources. As wartime scarcities disappear, wartime controls will be relaxed and discontinued. It is probable, however, that many such controls will continue to be needed for a time after the close of the European phase of the War to ensure the effective prosecution of the Japanese phase, to guarantee the provision of essential civilian needs, to aid in meeting the more urgent requirements of reconstruction, and to prevent inflation.

Government Finance.—The broad proposals summarized above will call for government expenditures and revenues at higher than pre-war levels. Nevertheless, they are held to be consistent with post-war taxation at substantially lower levels than at present. Despite the great increase in the national debt during the War, the cost of carrying the debt is down to about the same relative weight to national income that it had in 1939. If income and employment can be maintained at high levels, the relative burden after the War is likely to be little more than it was in 1939. Therefore, when unemployment threatens, deficits and consequent increases in the national debt will be incurred to give effect to the above stated employment and income policy. Conversely, in periods of buoyant employment and income, the budget plans will call for surpluses. As during the War, fiscal policy will be based on economic, as much as purely financial considerations.

Subsection 1.—New Administrative Departments

The Department of National Health and Welfare.—This Department, which has absorbed the national health work of the former Department of Pensions and National Health, has a direct connection with the general program of reconstruction. This is now under the Deputy Minister of National Health while the Deputy Minister of Welfare acts in co-operation with the Dominion and municipal authorities to seek means of improving the standards of social welfare generally. The most important scheme which this Department is now organizing is the Family Allowances Program. Fundamentally, the nature of the Department's work is broader and deeper than reconstruction and rehabilitation since public health has been a concern of Government since the earliest days of the Dominion's history. The work of the Department is dealt with in Chapters XX and XXI of this volume.

The Department of Veterans Affairs.—This Department was established in June, 1944, and charged with the responsibility of the care, treatment, training or re-establishment in civil life of any person who served in the naval, military or air forces of His Majesty, any person who has engaged in pursuits relating to war, and of any other person designated by the Governor in Council. During the same session of Parliament several measures were passed for the assistance of veterans and other persons coming under the Act. Among them are Acts providing war