

Awaiting Returns Benefit.—The rehabilitation program, chiefly through the War Service Grants Act and the Veterans' Land Act, encourages veterans to re-establish themselves in private enterprises. Few of these enterprises are such that they provide a living from their inception. It was to provide the veteran and his family with a sustenance allowance, until such time as his farm or business would provide sufficient income for that purpose, that this benefit was made part of the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order.

This benefit, is payable, if necessary, up to a period equal to the veteran's service with the maximum of a year and may be applied for within the year following discharge or cessation of hostilities, whichever is the later date. The rates are as set forth in the Section dealing with the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order.

As will be seen from Table 2, 947 veterans have received this benefit since the Order became law. The same table also indicates that the number is increasing rapidly. This is due to increased discharges and the fact that veterans are now considering the future on a permanent basis rather than wartime employment.

Section 6.—Rehabilitation of Veterans

Subsection 1.—Vocational Training

After the War of 1914-18 vocational training was given only to those whose disabilities prevented them from following their previous occupations and to those who joined the Forces too young to have learned a trade. Less than 8 p.c. of those who served in the Forces completed vocational training after the War of 1914-18. In marked contrast this time, the Department has authority to grant training to any discharged person, provided he has the aptitude and inclination. Terms of allowances both for the trainee and for his dependants are as set out in the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order, P.C. 5210.

Opportunities for training apply to men and women alike, and the function is to prepare the trainee for permanent employment in a suitable occupation. In order that the training may be adapted to the needs and qualifications of each individual, occupational counsellors interview each applicant for training and advise and assist him in selecting his course.

Short try-out courses are available, if necessary, to assist in choosing a proper vocation, while reconditioning centres are being established to assist certain cases temporarily unfitted for training or employment. Seriously disabled veterans and those suffering from serious handicaps are supervised by Casualty Rehabilitation Officers from the time of hospitalization until established in occupations and care is taken that suitable vocational courses are decided upon for these persons. Co-operation of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Canadian Institute for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, and the War Amputations of Canada has been secured to assist cases coming under those three categories.

Since individuals differ widely in abilities, skills, experience, education and personal characteristics, the scope of the vocational training program has been designed to meet the needs of all. The policy has been laid down that, wherever