

are being used until this is ready. Government House at Regina, Sask., has been taken over, altered and repaired, and is now providing 40 beds for active convalescent care. The R.C.A.F. hospital of 175 beds is being largely utilized for active convalescence. At Vancouver, B.C., the 200-bed unit at Burnaby is well under way and occupancy is expected by late summer; the Army facilities at Gordon Head are being used until this is completed.

**Special Treatment Centres.**—Because of the congestion in civilian sanatoria and the inability of the Department to obtain sufficient beds in these institutions, special centres have been set up in certain of the provinces for the care of tuberculosis patients. The Naval hospital of 250 beds at Cornwallis, N.S., is being operated as a tuberculosis unit. The 100-bed Naval hospital at St. Hyacinthe, Que., is being expanded to a 300-bed unit for the same purpose and the R.C.A.F. hospital at Lachine, Que., of 200 beds and the Veterans' Hospital at Peterborough, Ont., of 250 beds are being used for the exclusive care of cases of tuberculosis. Plans are under way for the erection of a 500-bed sanatorium of permanent construction at Senneville, Que. When this construction is complete, it is anticipated that the Lachine and St. Hyacinthe hospitals will be abandoned.

The special treatment unit at Lyndhurst, Ont., for the care of paraplegics is being operated to capacity, as is also the neurosis centre at Scarboro. The special treatment centres which, during the period of hostilities, were operated on a combined basis with the Services in neurosurgery, plastic surgery, orthopædic surgery, urology, arthritic disease, etc., are now being operated entirely by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Veterans' Homes.**—The Department is charged with the responsibility of providing domiciliary care for aged veterans, and has under active consideration the extension of the facilities for this purpose. Veterans' Homes are now provided in reasonably close proximity to the Department's other treatment facilities.

In addition to the foregoing, money grants have been made available to civilian hospitals at Charlottetown, P.E.I., to provide 100 beds; at Kingston, Ont., to provide 130 beds; and at Port Arthur, Ont., to provide 100 beds. Plans are also under way for the taking over of Service hospitals at the following seven points: Sussex, Quebec, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Brandon and Vancouver.

The total number of beds likely to be available to the Department on the completion of its present program is slightly in excess of 20,000. Approximately 8,000 of these beds will be made up of either leased premises or of the older and more obsolete type of hospital construction. The peak load is estimated to strike the Department during the year 1946 and when it has passed, consideration will be given to the abandonment of as much of this type of accommodation as no longer meets the high standard of hospitalization set up for the provision of hospital care for the ex-service man.

### **Subsection 2.—Prostheses and Surgical Appliances**

The Prosthetic Services Branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs, set up in August, 1916, has, as its first responsibility, the provision of prostheses and surgical appliances. It operates a main manufacturing centre at Toronto and eleven district depots from coast to coast with facilities for measuring, fitting, altering and repairing artificial limbs, orthopædic boots, splints, braces and artificial eyes. In addition, minor orthopædic appliances such as trusses, glasses, elastic hosiery, etc., are supplied through purchase from private manufacturers.