

plus facilities; and at Quebec, 200 beds in a new hospital. These will all be of modern, fire-proof construction and will include accommodation for internes, in order to meet the change in Departmental policy of employing internes largely to replace the full-time medical officers in the Treatment Services. Much of the replacement program will not concern beds, but rather ancillary services essential for adequate investigation, diagnosis and treatment. Service to bed patients represents a relatively small proportion of the treatment service to veterans of both wars, evidenced by the fact that in the year ended Mar. 31, 1946, total admissions to hospital numbered 92,015, while clinical treatments numbered 738,558.

### Subsection 3.—Prostheses and Surgical Appliances

The Prosthetic Services Branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs, established in August, 1916, has as its first responsibility the provision of prostheses and orthopædic appliances to veterans and other persons entitled to such supply under Order in Council P.C. 4465 as amended. In the latter case, the Departments concerned include National Defence and Mines and Resources, together with the Canadian National Railways and Provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards.

The organization consists of a main manufacturing and fitting centre at Toronto and eleven district centres established in the major Canadian cities, equipped with facilities for measuring, fitting, adjusting and maintaining artificial limbs, orthopædic boots, splints, braces, artificial eyes and other appliances. Minor orthopædic appliances such as trusses, glasses, hearing aids, elastic hosiery, etc., are supplied through purchase from private manufacturers.

Issues in the fiscal years since 1940 were as follows:—

<i>Year Ended Mar. 31—</i>	<i>Total Production Jobs</i>	<i>Purchased and Stock Articles Issued</i>	<i>Total Issues</i>
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
1941.....	15,167	15,944	31,111
1942.....	16,625	16,460	33,085
1943.....	19,601	17,024	36,625
1944.....	21,990	17,847	39,837
1945.....	27,472	27,423	54,895
1946.....	36,484	56,797	93,281
1947 (estimated).....	38,971	70,829	109,800

The total number of patients receiving issues in the fiscal year 1946-47 exceeded 78,000.

The Branch carries out considerable research on prostheses in co-operation with the National Research Council and keeps abreast of developments in other countries. The Branch is the Departmental liaison with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, who extend blind training and after-care service to blinded veterans, the National Institute for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing on matters relating to veterans with loss of hearing, and the War Amputations of Canada on veteran amputation cases.

### Subsection 4.—Dental Services

A brief history of dental services from organization in 1919 to Mar. 31, 1946, is contained in the 1946 edition of the Year Book, at pp. 1059-1060.

Decentralization of the services was completed in October, 1946, with the opening of the last of the district dental offices, at North Bay, Ont. There are now 44 dental clinics in operation in 16 districts. The setting-up and manning of these