

Subsection 1.—Discharges, Employment and Allowances

Discharges and Employment.—By Feb. 28, 1947, the work of demobilization was to all intents and purposes completed. Only 4,000 to 5,000 individuals were left in the Armed Forces who were then to be returned to civil life. Cumulative discharges from September, 1939, to February, 1947, were as follows:—

<i>Service</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
	No.	No.	No.
Navy.....	87,604	6,546	94,150
Army.....	646,357	24,863	671,220
Air Force.....	199,456	16,987	216,443

Total discharges as at the end of February, 1947, numbered 981,813.*

Although the numbers of veterans who have taken advantage of the Vocational Training, Educational Training, and Veterans' Land Act provisions seem large, the majority have returned to civil employment. Their return to civil life was greatly aided by the work of the National Employment Service of the Department of Labour, which, through a policy of veterans preference, had made 744,773 placements from September, 1943, to February, 1947, on behalf of veterans; 639,548 of these placements were made on behalf of veterans of the Second World War. This figure does not represent the number of veterans placed as two or more placements are often made in an attempt to settle a veteran after discharge. In addition to those normal placement operations, between August, 1945, and January, 1947, some 171,000 veterans had been, through the facilities of the National Employment Service, reinstated in their pre-war jobs under the Re-Instatement in Civil Employment Act.

Unemployment among veterans of the Second World War has not, on the whole, been serious at any time so far. The peak of unemployment was reached during the first quarter of 1946, when it followed the seasonal trend. Table 4 shows the number of veterans registered with the National Employment Service as unemployed.

* Based on National Defence Headquarters information.

4.—Veterans Registered with the National Employment Service as Unemployed, by Months and Sex, January, 1946, to February, 1947

Year and Month	Veterans of the First World War		Veterans of the Second World War		Veterans with Dual Service	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1946						
January.....	9,561	6	47,855	892	1,547	Nil
February.....	10,265	5	59,219	1,051	1,765	“
March.....	10,509	4	69,428	1,215	1,873	“
April.....	9,440	5	68,876	1,198	1,688	“
May.....	8,089	6	61,650	1,131	1,494	“
June.....	6,931	4	41,658	1,165	1,409	“
July.....	6,412	6	45,665	1,159	1,493	Nil
August.....	5,927	4	41,098	1,121	1,376	“
September.....	5,740	3	37,792	1,226	1,386	“
October.....	5,519	2	36,621	1,136	1,576	“
November.....	5,835	2	39,519	957	1,778	“
December.....	6,160	2	44,967	808	1,921	“
1947						
January.....	6,887	2	51,481	1,114	2,165	“
February.....	7,129	2	50,569	1,124	2,422	1