

Subsection 3.—Dental Services

A brief history of dental services from their organization in 1919 to Mar. 31, 1947, is contained in the 1946 and 1947 editions of the Year Book at pp. 1059-1060 and pp. 1138-1139, respectively. The volume of dental treatment reached its peak during the year ended Mar. 31, 1947, when services supplied increased more than five-fold over the preceding year. Applications for post-discharge treatment up to Mar. 31, 1948, numbered 662,481; of this total more than 650,000 had been completed or otherwise closed out. In addition to post-discharge treatment given in the first year after release from the Armed Forces adequate dental services were maintained for all treatment classifications defined in Order in Council P.C. 4465 and amendments thereto.

<u>Year Ended Mar. 31—</u>	<u>Treatments</u>	<u>Patients Completely Treated</u>
	No.	No.
1940.....	121,604	9,587
1941.....	99,590	8,020
1942.....	73,113	7,380
1943.....	102,554	10,817
1944.....	66,562	11,841
1945.....	249,170	23,672
1946.....	509,703	56,416
1947.....	2,700,052	284,216
1948.....	1,191,218	160,313

Subsection 4.—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. 2048 as amended. Appliances are supplied upon request to Provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, Canadian National Railways, Department of National Defence, Department of Mines and Resources and others.

The organization consists of a main manufacturing and fitting centre at Toronto and 11 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.

The number of persons supplied with appliances during the year ended Mar. 31, 1948, was 45,238 as compared with 76,774 during the previous fiscal year. Appliances supplied since Apr. 1, 1940, were as follows:—

<u>Year Ended Mar. 31—</u>	<u>Total Production Jobs</u>	<u>Stock and Purchases</u>	<u>Total Issues</u>
	No.	No.	No.
1940.....	15,703	15,920	31,623
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	61,327	97,811
1947.....	37,947	84,958	122,905
1948.....	32,626	59,924	92,550