

## Section 5.—Rehabilitation of Veterans

The Veterans' Welfare Division of the Rehabilitation Branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for the efficient administration of benefits available to discharged members of the Forces, under the terms of the Veterans' Rehabilitation Act and regulations drawn up under that Act, other than matters relating to vocational, technical or university training. Briefly, these functions are as follows:—

(1) *Administration of out-of-work allowances.* Payment of such allowances, under an agreement with the Unemployment Insurance Commission, is now being made by the Department of Labour on authorization of the Department of Veterans Affairs. As applications for this allowance must be made within 18 months after discharge, it naturally follows that the numbers receiving this allowance are declining rapidly.

Administrative machinery to place veterans in employment comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Labour, which Department is also charged with the administration of the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act. Under arrangements made between the two Departments, however, the Department of Veterans Affairs is accorded the privilege of finding employment for the seriously disabled in collaboration with officials of the National Employment Service.

As a result of this close liaison between the Departments in all centres where the National Employment Service maintains an office, other than in those centres where the Department of Veterans Affairs maintains a District or Sub-district Office, the Employment Service has on its staff a Veterans Officer who is available to give advice and guidance to veterans on matters relating to their rehabilitation which come within the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(2) *Administration of allowances for veterans awaiting returns from private enterprise engaged in on their own account, including allowances available to veterans who have taken up full-time farming or commercial fishing under the terms of the Veterans' Land Act.* Close liaison is maintained by the Veterans' Welfare Division and the Re-establishment Credits Division of the Rehabilitation Branch and officials of the Veterans' Land Act Administration and care is exercised to ensure that the veteran will get the best possible advice before embarking upon an enterprise or business. In this connection also it should be noted that members of Citizens' Committees, familiar with business opportunities in the particular centre in which the veteran wishes to establish himself, have co-operated in advising the Department and these veterans of the chances of the veteran succeeding in his proposal.

(3) *Administration of allowances available to veterans who are temporarily incapacitated.* This benefit is designed particularly to care for veterans who do not require any active remedial hospital care to which they may be entitled under the Department's enabling authority but where, because of some ailment, they may be debarred from working for a short period.

(4) *Administration of the Unemployment Insurance contributions, payable for the period of service (or from June 30, 1941) on the completion of 15 weeks in insurable employment after discharge.*

Officials of the Veterans' Welfare Division also act as the veteran's friend in advising with regard to rights and privileges under regulations administered by other government departments, federal, provincial and municipal.