

ment of Veterans Affairs and the Casualty Rehabilitation Section has resulted in hospital visiting for the purpose of counselling toward employment or training upon discharge from hospital, or arranging for correspondence courses during hospitalization.

During their service careers, many women formed new concepts of the opportunities for employment available in civilian life. For the first time, in many cases, these women could choose a career. With the co-operation of the National Employment Service, women veterans who wish it are assisted in obtaining employment in keeping with their experience and academic background. Each time an application for Out-of-Work Allowance is received, personal follow-up is carried out in the hope that the applicant may be trained for, or recounselled into suitable alternative employment. The Department of Veterans Affairs has made Armed Service contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund on behalf of 10,066 ex-service women.

Citizens Committees, Women's Clubs and organizations have been invaluable in helping the ex-service woman to fit into and take part in community life. Full co-operation with the Department of Veterans Affairs has been given, particularly in the matter of finding accommodation for the women who have moved to other centres to take training or employment. Clubs in many communities have given their support in making personal contact with the veteran on her return home, and have been instrumental in helping her face her problems.

Subsection 6.—Rehabilitation of Older Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs in 1946 added to its establishment a Special Adviser to the Deputy Minister to deal with matters concerning veterans of both World Wars. Since then considerable progress has been made in the establishment of a continuous employment and welfare service for veterans over 45 years of age.

As the employment rehabilitation services for some 50,000 veterans of the First World War, who also served in the Second World War, were being planned it was discovered that there was a very considerable number of veterans of the First World War who had made a worthwhile contribution during the years 1939-45 but were handicapped in the post-war employment market. Likewise, older veterans of the South African campaign and the First World War, including ex-members of His Majesty's Imperial Forces domiciled in Canada many years, required assistance from the Department.

It is estimated that this grouped class numbers 350,000, many of whom have acquired age but not security. There has developed a great reluctance in business and industry to hire workers of middle age, and a greater reluctance to employ those in the late fifties and early sixties. Yet the economy of the country demands the productive capacity of such workers be fully utilized in gainful employment.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has established throughout its District Offices small specialist staff sections whose responsibility it is, in co-operation with the National Employment Service, to screen, classify and counsel these older veteran applicants and to assist them to obtain work suited to their capacity and ability.