

Casualty Rehabilitation.—The function of the Casualty Welfare Division is outlined in the 1956 Year Book, p. 307. At the end of March 1958 there were 4,177 active cases. The total number of disabled veterans registered with the Division since its establishment was 45,418 and of these 41,241 were closed cases. Registrations during 1957-58 numbered 1,530 and cases closed numbered 2,899.

2.—Statistics re Registrations for Casualty Rehabilitation up to Mar. 31, 1958

Type of Disability	Active Cases as at Mar. 31	Total Closed Cases	Status	Registrants up to—	
				Mar. 31, 1957	Mar. 31, 1958
	No.	No.		No.	No.
Amputation.....	169	2,220	Employed.....	34,893	36,087
Neuro-muscular and skeletal system disabilities.....	1,101	12,796	Unemployed.....	777	902
Total and partial loss of hearing or sight.....	214	3,045	Receiving treatment, training or other services.....	1,824	1,795
Neurological cases.....	213	1,532	Rehabilitation not feasible.....	3,082	3,732
Heart and vascular system.....	234	4,082	Closed on WVA.....	1,492	1,740
Respiratory disabilities.....	1,296	10,938	Left Canada.....	1,055	1,162
Mental and emotional disabilities..	379	1,196			
Unclassified.....	571	5,432			
Totals.....	4,177	41,241	Totals.....	43,123	45,418

Social Services.—The Social Services Division provides a “case-work” service to veterans and their dependants, and a social welfare consultant service to other Departmental officials dealing with welfare matters. It maintains liaison, in the interest of veterans and their dependants, with welfare departments at all levels of government and with private social and philanthropic agencies.

The Division has certain responsibilities in connection with the operation of the Assistance Fund available to War Veterans Allowance recipients who are in need (*see* p. 292). At the request of the Department of National Defence it furnishes reports on home circumstances of Armed Forces personnel who request compassionate leave, posting or discharge. The latter service is often instrumental in providing help to those concerned through counselling and referral to community welfare services.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1958, there were 15,226 requests for services from all sources, an 11-p.c. increase over the previous year.

Older Veterans.—During the year ended Mar. 31, 1958, emphasis continued on services to veterans and their dependants who, through age, merit special assistance in obtaining or retaining employment suitable to their abilities, or are unemployable. Increased War Veterans Allowance and Old Age Security rates, and extensions in the eligibility requirements of the WVA Act, enhanced the economic state of veterans dependent on these benefits. Building of suitable rental housing for elderly persons, sponsored by various levels of government and community organizations, resulted in a marked improvement in the accommodation available to many elderly veterans and their dependants.

Relaxation among employers of fixed hiring and retiring age policies was reflected during the winter unemployment among World War I veterans. At Mar. 31, 1958, 12,707 were registered for work, an increase of 2,118 over the same date of 1957. Most of these had unemployment insurance benefits, and WVA entitlement upon cessation of these benefits if re-employment placement did not occur. The Corps of Commissionaires provided uniformed employment for 4,886 older veterans, 2,446 on Federal Government posts and the remainder on provincial, municipal, or private employer duties.

The Division reviews all rejected applications for War Veterans Allowance to ensure alternative services wherever possible, and works closely with all private and public bodies concerned with the welfare of the aged.