

The Department employs 37 full-time dentists, one half-time dentist and two dental consultants, specialists in their fields, on a part-time basis. Twenty-two dental clinics are maintained in departmental hospitals or centres on a full-time or part-time basis. Elsewhere, the services of private dentists on a fee-for-service basis are utilized. Training courses for dental surgeons in various specialties of dentistry have been conducted by the Department and many departmental dentists have participated in the research programs of their respective hospitals, and assisted the dental colleges by part-time lecturing.

All clinics and dental surgeons were working well up to capacity during 1959-60; 19,591 courses of treatment were given, an increase of 443 patients over 1958-59. Operations numbered 122,650, also an increase over the previous year.

Prosthetic Services.—The Department provides a complete coverage of prosthetic and orthopaedic appliances and sensory aid devices to disabled veterans and to other departments of government on a repayment basis. The primary issue is made on medical prescription. Maintenance and renewal are carried out at district centres. Service is given without expense to the eligible veteran. Twelve centres or shops are located in or adjacent to the departmental hospitals in major cities from coast to coast, and six sub-centres in smaller localities. The largest centre, located at Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto, manufactures stock parts and is the central stores supply.

A research section is maintained for the design and testing of new materials and appliances. Among new developments now in general production are the plastic Syme's leg with a solid ankle and sponge rubber foot, the Canadian Hip Disarticulation leg, and a motorized unit designed by the National Research Council for wheel chairs for quadruplegic cases. A newly developed plastic mechanical hand, cosmetic gloves for artificial hands, and a light universal ankle brace to replace heavier types have recently been put into general production.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1960, service was provided to approximately 77,000 patients who received 150,000 issues.

Section 2.—Rehabilitation Services

Much of the legislation designed to assist with the postwar rehabilitation of veterans has expired but, as indicated in this Section, some programs are still of significant importance. Besides administering the programs described in this Section, the Welfare Services Branch is responsible for all field work connected with War Veterans Allowances (see p. 342). It also provides a counselling and referral service to veterans and their dependants in relation to a wide variety of needs not covered by departmental legislation. This work requires close liaison with Service benevolent funds, veterans organizations, other government departments at the federal, provincial and municipal levels and a broad range of voluntary health and welfare organizations.

War Service Gratuity.—The payment of war service gratuities was discontinued after Dec. 31, 1954 for World War II veterans, except for those with overseas service who could not apply before that date as a result of unusual circumstances. The yearly amounts paid in gratuities up to the end of March 1955 are shown in the 1956 Year Book, p. 306. Those paid subsequently and the cumulative totals to Mar. 31, 1960 were:—

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>World War II Veterans</u>	<u>Special Force Veterans</u>
	\$	\$
1955-56.....	30,536	16,932
1956-57.....	9,457	7,351
1957-58.....	10,016	1,230
1958-59.....	9,974	2,089
1959-60.....	6,220	1,463
CUMULATIVE TOTALS TO MAR. 31, 1960.....	470,038,242	6,693,604