

opened at 47 Buchanan Street, Toronto, and the work grew to such an extent that the largest and most up-to-date factory in Canada with fitting depots in all the principal centres is operated by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. An experimental branch is maintained, which is constantly engaged in devising and developing new designs and improvements on existing appliances. The Department is also manufacturing surgical appliances such as splints, braces, belts, corsets, orthopædic boots, spectacles, etc. Since the commencement of the work in 1916, 89,397 appliances of all kinds have been issued, 37,135 of them during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1921, the latter number including 15,152 repairs.

POST-DISCHARGE DENTAL TREATMENT.

The Dental Branch of the Department was established, not for the purpose of providing dental services for every ex-member of the forces, but to serve when necessary as an adjunct in the restoration of such ex-members of the forces to normal health and strength. Those entitled to dental treatment by the department are: (1) Ex-members of the forces on the treatment or training strength of the Department. This class receives dental treatment only when it is indicated by the unit's medical director that such treatment will improve the man's general condition. (2) Ex-members of the forces who require dental treatment for repair or direct damage to the jaw or teeth resulting from war service. This class includes cases of recurrence of infected mouth due to service which require treatment for a toxic systemic condition, due to the recurrence of oral infection. These men are placed in the same position as those suffering from any other physical disability due to service, and receive either full pay and allowances or are taken on the strength as out-patients, being granted allowances for the time lost in attending for treatment, according to the circumstances of the case. (3) Ex-members of the forces referred to the Department by the Board of Pension Commissioners when it is considered that dental treatment is necessary to lower pensionable disability.

The number of dental services rendered in Departmental clinics from January 1, 1920, to March 31, 1921, consisted of 207,308 operations. In addition 754 patients were treated by other than departmental salaried dentists. It has been found that the installation of dental clinics in the hospitals of the Department has resulted in many cases in a material improvement in the condition of the patients. This has been found particularly the case in tuberculosis sanatoria, and several instances have been discovered where an apparent chest disability has entirely disappeared when an unknown dental disability has been discovered and remedied. The dental branch has also dealt with a number of facial war injuries where bone grafting has been required and where complicated prostheses have been fitted.