

Subject to regulations requiring previous adequate practical farming experience in Canada and general fitness, members of the C.E.F. who saw service outside of Canada are eligible for the benefits of the Act, as well as those whose service was not outside of Canada but who are receiving or have received a service pension. The benefits of the Act also apply to ex-members of any of the Imperial, Dominion or allied forces who resided in Canada prior to the war, and to members of the Imperial and Overseas Dominion Forces who saw service out of their own country. Imperial or Dominion ex-service men not resident in Canada at the outbreak of the war, will, however, be required to work on a farm in Canada to gain experience before they are qualified to participate. These latter are also required to have sufficient working capital to maintain themselves and their dependants until returns from the land are forthcoming and to pay down twenty p.c. of the cost of land, stock, implements and buildings.

Since the commencement of operations, 59,331 returned soldiers have made application for certificates of qualification. The consideration of these applications involved an examination of every applicant's war service and a close investigation of his past farming knowledge and ability, his moral risk, physical and general fitness and personal capital and assets. In most cases the Board or its Qualification Committee have had to interview the applicant in person. If an applicant is qualified he is granted a certificate and may make application for a loan forthwith. If he lacks experience he is recommended to secure employment on a farm until he is able to satisfy the Board that he possesses the required knowledge of farm management. Training centres were organized and maintained by the Board in several provinces, and until May 1, 1921, pay and allowances were granted to men, especially those with families, during the period of training. All training centres have been closed and are being disposed of. The only training now recognized is practical experience under ordinary conditions and on the basis of wages current for farm labour.

Of the 59,331 applicants, 43,063 were granted qualification certificates. Six hundred and fifty-one are now obtaining further practical farming experience before being considered as qualified. A number of the remainder are still in abeyance, while others have been disqualified or recommended for practical training.

To qualified persons, loans may be granted up to \$7,500 at five per cent interest, repayable on the amortization plan, in six annual instalments in the case of loans for stock and equipment, and in 25 annual instalments in the case of land and buildings. There are three classes of loans:—On purchased lands: up to \$4,500 for land purchase, up to \$2,000 for stock and equipment and up to \$1,000 for permanent improvements; on agricultural lands already owned by settler, up to \$3,500 for the removal of encumbrances, up to \$2,000 for stock and equipment and up to \$1,000 for permanent improvements, provided the total does not exceed \$5,000. The following