

emolument and thus assisting his social readjustment and his personal contentment. Except in a very few desperate cases, prolonged idleness on full pension, or indefinite stay on the Intermediate Scheme or in the Vocational Centres, will be neither desirable nor practicable. The Vocational Centres and the Intermediate Scheme must, instead, be in a position to release men definitely more fitted for industrial placement at approximately the rate at which new and more serious cases are being assumed by them.

68. Given this foundation selective placement in industry becomes the culminating step in the solution of the disabled man's case. It is for this reason that such significance is attached to the compilation of the occupational monograph and the subsequent placement campaign referred to in the Employment Section of the report.

69. Continued friendly after-care or post-placement contacts with disabled men are regarded as important. Very often the men in question suffer minor physical or psychological setbacks even after satisfactory establishment has been reported, and here the value of friendly advice and encouragement is most helpful. Post-placement contacts of this kind are often the means of averting a break-down in employment, and therefore a recession in every aspect of the disabled man's case. Rehabilitation Officers and League Field Officers have therefore co-operated closely in following up all the cases of all the more seriously-disabled men with a view to encouraging them to discuss any difficulties or developments likely to prejudice their long-term rehabilitation. The results obtained from this follow-up service have amply justified it.

SECTION VIII.—SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

(i) General

70. Thus far assistance to rehabilitate themselves has in the main been extended to ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen in accordance with financial employment and other procedures specifically devised as rehabilitation measures. It has, however, become apparent that these measures, though fundamental, do not provide all that is desired in the innumerable social and economic fields in which affinities with rehabilitation responsibility are being increasingly revealed. The need to provide for ex-servicemen in these many fields has accordingly occupied the Board.

71. It is recognized that the planned reconstruction and development of the national economy offer the best promise of durable and worthwhile rehabilitation for all ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen, and the plans being prepared by the Organization for National Development are expected to create and safeguard favourable conditions for the administration of specific rehabilitation measures. Nevertheless, the impossibility and undesirability of bringing every detailed aspect of rehabilitation within the scope of the general development plan are conceded, and attention has therefore been directed to the engrafting of particular limited arrangements for ex-servicemen on existing general civilian arrangements.

72. Application of these arrangements for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen has already extended to a number of particular fields, and it is certain that this practice will, as rehabilitation develops, come to be relied upon more to interweave efforts for the civil re-establishment of men and women from the Forces with the general economic activity of the community. The particular fields in which such arrangements have already been applied and their nature are now discussed.

(ii) Ex-servicemen in Licensed Industries

73. Under the authority conferred by the Industrial Efficiency Act, 1936, some thirty-four important industries are licensed with the Bureau of Industry (Department of Industries and Commerce). The effect of licensing is to require firms or persons contemplating establishment to obtain first a license to do so from the Bureau of Industry, while there are other provisions in the procedure administered by the Bureau facilitating the preparation and introduction of Dominion plans in the industries affected. The licensing policy of the Bureau is based upon the economic justification for the enterprises concerned, and the objects of this policy are elimination of wasteful competition and increased industrial efficiency in existing enterprises.

74. In addition to the licensed industries operating under the Industrial Efficiency Act the transport industry is also subject to licensing and supervision by the Transport Licensing Authorities working under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Transport and the Commissioner of Transport, while breadbaking and pastry-cooking is subject to licensing by the Wheat and Flour Controller; and the delivery of milk is licensed by local bodies. Control also exists in different forms in a number of other business fields.

75. The Rehabilitation Board has made representations to the Bureau of Industry and the Transport Department and other controlling persons and organizations to secure recognition in licensing practice of the following rehabilitation requirements:—

- (a) That licensees mobilized for service with the Forces be dissuaded from disposing of their businesses at this stage; that the license attaching thereto be suspended during the licensee's service with the Forces; and that on the licensee's death or return to civil life the license be revived and made subject to transfer in the usual way;
- (b) That during the absence of any licensee on service with the Forces temporary licenses only be issued to new operators for the duration of the war;
- (c) That in the transfer of existing licenses preference be accorded ex-servicemen; and
- (d) That the owner of any licensed business who is himself not a member of the Armed Services be required to transfer any licenses which are considered to be surplus, having regard to the number of men employed by him and the needs of ex-servicemen for business of such kind.