



Throughout the length and breadth of the nation there are few who haven't some relative, man or woman, somewhere in the armed forces, and it's only natural that everyone is concerned with their future when the guns stop booming. Certainly they've got to stand on their own feet to a great extent to preserve their own self-respect and independence, but in view of their services to our country the State has some responsibility for their rehabilitation. That got me thinking that night here in Ottawa, of course, do the answer to problems which have been maybe bothering

I had heard of the Canadian Veterans' Rehabilitation Plan, but didn't know much about it, figured most other people wouldn't either, so I struck off to see E. B. Reid, superintendent of publicity for the Department of Pensions and National Health and got from him a clear picture of just what is being planned for the men and women returning to civilian life. What you think of it is your business. What I propose to do is lay the facts before you for any comprehension.

The whole sorry impotent Plan had to be a blueprint first, but some of it is at work already. Apparently they tackled the problem with the keynote idea that the "job" is the vital thing and the answer to the job is "skill." You know, of course, that the men and women have been guaranteed a return to their civilian jobs if they exist, and if they were bonded employees of the company before enlisting, and with seniority rights established. But what about the thousands and thousands of others not fortunate enough to have a peace-time niche to step back into? That's the highlight of the plan, as I saw it.

To ensure that thing called financial security during the transition period the Post Discharge Re-establishment Order provides cash allowances of \$10.20 weekly to the single person, \$14.40 to the married and if necessary additional allowances for children on the same scale as when the person was in the service. There are five groups eligible, Mr. Reid told me: 1.

Those fit and available for work and who have no suitable employment available. 2. Those under vocational training (also provided under government auspices). 3. Those in small business or on farms and awaiting returns. 4. After discharge, those temporarily unable to work. 5. Those finishing university education which was interrupted by the war, (and the provision for this is also in the plan).

Before getting into the meat of the thing, let me add that these allowances except in out-of-work benefits, can be applied for, within 12 months after discharge or the end of the war. The out-of-work ones are paid only within 18 months after discharge.

The vocational training phase of the plan seems to me to hit the jackpot. There are no strings attached to the offer in this war, so there's no use starting to think "they didn't do this or that" in the last one. Any service man or woman, the plan definitely states, is entitled to vocational training on the basis of period of service, if he will benefit by it, for a minimum of 12 months. Fields of employment are now being vigorously explored and plans, I am told, are laid by which they expect more than 50 per cent of those discharged from the service will go into industry to be trained in various fields. There will be no "sympathetic guiding" and that, to me, seems another highlight of the plan, laid to restore our men and women returning from the war.

It might be well to add, lest anyone

think the plan is just in the "mind" yet that phases of the program are operating already, with more than 6,000 having benefited and some 2,000 getting training. Last reports indicate that in connection with those whose university education had been interrupted by enlistment, some 75 are back and continuing their courses through auspices of the plan.

Now let's get down to earth. What means to the land, where most people in Canada directly or indirectly are rooted. Thousands of those returning will have no other thought in mind than to the independent farmer; others, primary producers or otherwise, as their dues were before them. What about them, I asked Mr. Reid. The answer lay in the Veterans' Land Act, and again you might be inclined to get suspicious in view of past experiences that don't—until you get the full picture.

There are three types of settlement embodied in the Act: first, full time farming for those with pecuniary farming experience; secondly, assistance for small holdings for veterans in spots easily accessible to the place where work, and this includes, of course, industrial jobs; thirdly, small holdings near cities, areas where the veterans expect to take on the job of being a commercial citizen.

The plan is kindly about one thing, and mighty so, thus those going into the assisted settlement scheme must be suited to it and not burdened with an overwhelming debt. There were bitter experiences after the last war, because of this very thing not being made fundamental to plan of re-settlement, if you will remember.

Here is a nutshell in the Veterans' Land Act. The State is prepared to finance the purchase of land, and buildings up to \$4,000 and in addition livestock up to \$2,000, a total of \$6,000. What does the applicant have to do? He must pay application deposit equal to the cost of 10 per cent. of the total cost of land and buildings, which is a maximum of \$280. And here's the swell part of the deal for him or her. If they fulfill terms of the agreement for ten years, the state rewards them the whole thing, flock, stock and barrel, at two-thirds of the cost plus the 10 per cent. down payment; this means \$3,680. The rest is a gift from the State, which also agrees to finance the balance (\$3,200) over a maximum of 25 years with interest at 3½ per cent. The veteran is the deal becomes owner of everything, such as livestock, farm implements, fishing equipment, etc., as well. A simple thesis, this.

Another thing, the veteran is allowed to select his farm or small holding himself but he must show that in making the selection it will make for a reasonable opportunity to establish himself—or might I add, herself, too. That is, they wouldn't want a prospective wheat farmer to settle in a pile of sand. There has been many a bad experience in this line that they want to avoid.

This is merely a glimpse of the plan and of course full details will be provided the individual at the proper time.

I also wanted a brief picture of another side of the problem of rehabilitation, and got it. Regulations provide for pensioners free treatment and allowances as a "permanent right." As to non-pensioners, any ex-service man or woman may get free treatment if it commences within a year of discharge and allowances can be paid for 12 months or the period of service, whichever is the lesser during the 18 months after discharge.

The whole plan seemed to me one designed particularly as a "mutual aid" sort of thing. The men and women returning from the war will have a direct responsibility to help themselves, but deserve and are to get a helping hand from those whom they served, the people, and the people serve the state. There are volunteer committees all over Canada working closely with the government on this business of rehabilitation. The government is also seeking co-operation of industry and employers throughout the nation, because the transition period is one on which the future of Canada may well depend.

Just a sidelight. When the lads and lasses get their discharge, they are allowed one month's allowance and active pay; a clothing allowance of \$65 and railway fare to home or place of enlistment, as desired.

## ALLIED 3.7 A.A. GUN DOES TWO JOBS



A 3.7 Anti-Aircraft gun has a dual role in Italian fighting. It is an equally formidable weapon as a field artillery gun. Picture shows: A 3.7 gun in use as a field artillery weapon. The rangefinder is not needed, but is prepared for use in the event of the gun being switched to A.A. work.

## The Salvage of Human Lives

### ARTICLE TWO

Prepared by the Association of Children's Aid Societies of the Province of Ontario

out and applied for a charter to start a Children's Aid Society.

The next article will tell you something about the wonderful piece of legislation drafted by the late Sir John Gibson, which first brought into being this democratic institution that operates under Government statute, that belongs to you in your community and which you can support and help and make what you will of—your Children's Aid Society.

## Saved His Train In Nick of Time

**British Driver Brought Train to Stop in Tunnel as Bombs Rained Down Outside**

LONDON (CP)—A crowded London-bound train was thundering through a tunnel during a second raid. When about half way through, driver Herbert Elsant, 51, saw the end of the tunnel was illuminated in a dazzling white glare—immediate bombs were showering down in their hundreds.

In a second or two the train would be in the open. Elsant, knowing that the incendiaries would penetrate the roofs of the carriage with disastrous results, slammed on every breaker. The train stopped just inside the tunnel.

Then armfuls of themselves with sheet-alk, Elsant and his fireman, William Page, raced out to tackle the blazes, some of which had already set fire to the wooden sleepers. They put out nearly 40 that were lying on the track. All the time other incendiaries were falling on either side of the embankment.

After briefly regarding the incident by telephone Elsant and Page went on "as usual" and were only 30 minutes later, back on the platform, that were lying on the track. Now, however, an escape they had had. On arrival in London they learned only the platform shrieking merely "we're a bit late this morning."

Elsant and Page said nothing about the incident and it was a day later when the district locomotive superintendent heard of it from "another source."

"I didn't want to blow off my head about nothing," Elsant explained.

All Page would say was that he remembered, while shovelling sand on the incendiaries, asking Elsant "if his insurance policy was paid up to date."

### MEMPHIS ENVOY TO AUSTRALIA

NEW DELHI (CP)—The Government of India has decided to appoint a high commissioner for India in Australia. The first appointment is expected to be made shortly.

## GERMAN REVOLT NOT EXPECTED

BRITISH (CP)—Dear Admiral G. Prince Thomson, Chief British Comptroller of Warships, has informed me that his naval crew would not be organized in Germany.

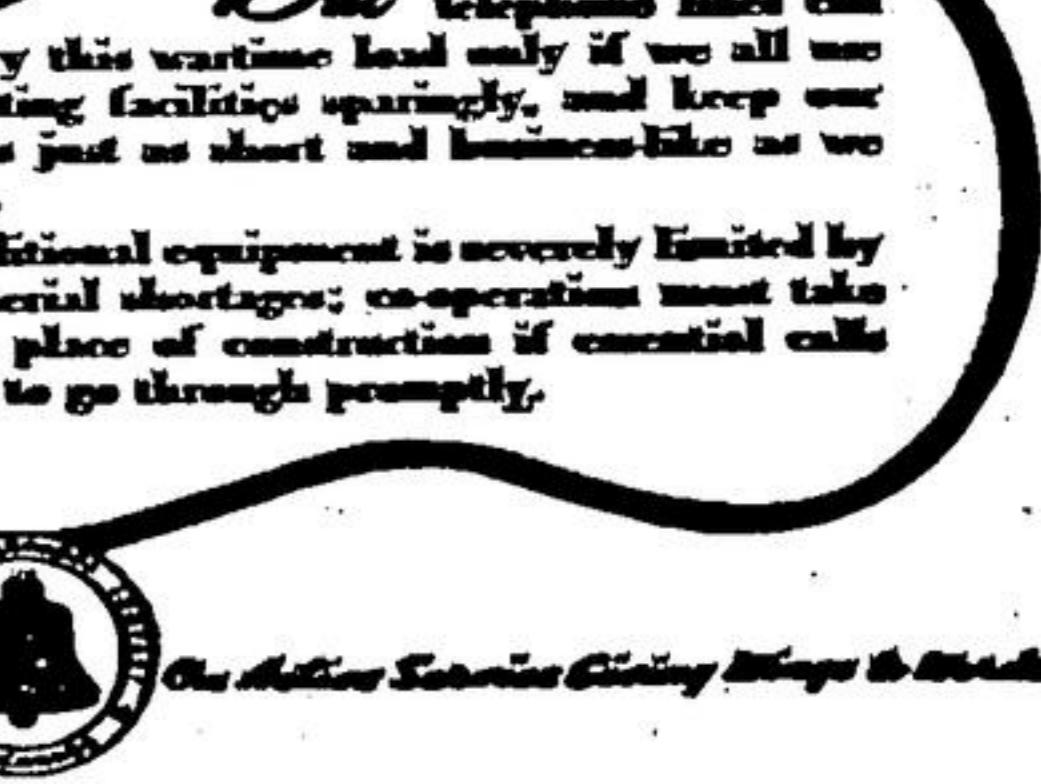
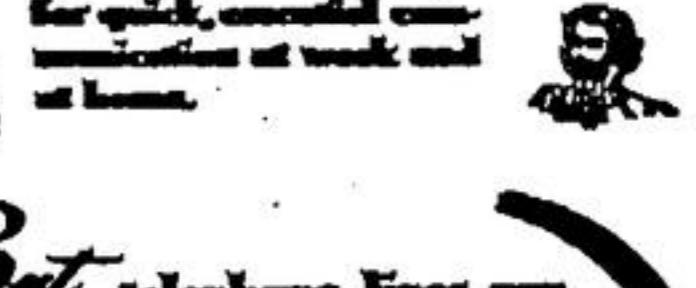
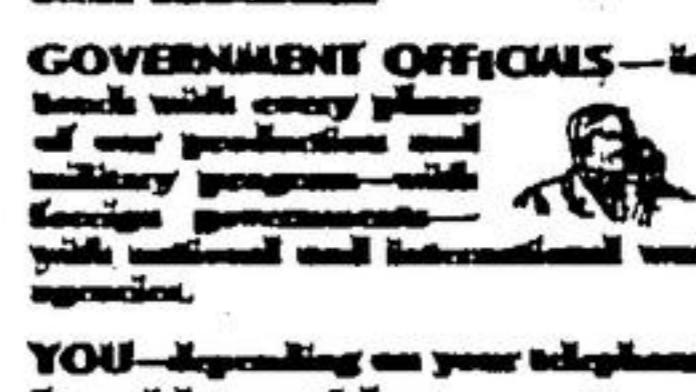
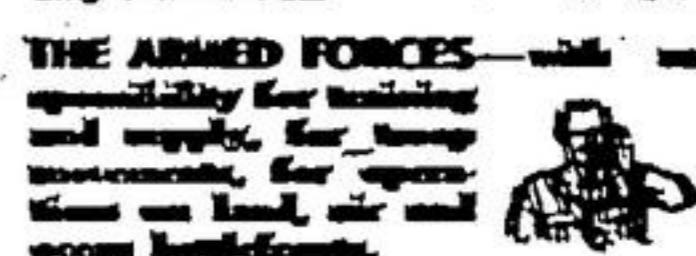
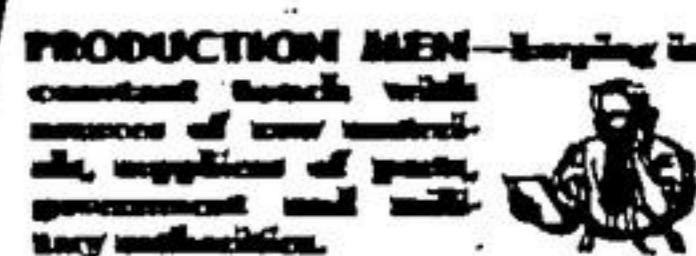
The German soldier would continue to fight until told by his officers to stop, and that would not happen until the German Army was driven back across its own frontier, he told a meeting here. Then the German generals would organize a strike on the home front and try to persuade the people it was not the army but the home front that had been responsible for their collapse and surrender.

## CANADIAN FELLIERS GOOD

LONDON (CP)—Believers of Canadian plodded with difficulty to the public scene made recently by the dead miners, which said "this fish is of excellent quality and being already killed the housewife is saved some trouble in preparation."

BRAZIL (CP)—Because of the traffic tangles they cause, sky-scoopers are losing their value in the United States and eventually will be as out-of-date as the paravane. George Venman Russell, Los Angeles architect, told the Royal Under Secretary of Agriculture.

## ROOM FOR EVERYBODY



"Additional equipment is severely limited by material shortages; co-operation must take the place of construction if essential calls are to go through promptly."

## I owe my life to the RED CROSS



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## CANADIAN + RED CROSS

The Need Grows as Victory Nears