

3. The favourable trend in the employment position in so far as it affects ex-servicemen has already been commented upon in Section VII hereof, and this may be further exemplified by reference to the following tabulation showing the numbers of persons drawing rehabilitation allowances and comparable demobilization totals as at the end of each month for the year under review.

At End of—	Number drawing Rehabilitation Allowances.			Total Number demobilized to Date.
	Fit.	Fit for Light Work only or Unfit.	Total.	
1945				
April	21	299	320	70,871
May	22	304	326	75,587
June	21	245	266	78,385
July	22	222	244	82,097
August	30	218	248	87,178
September	29	142	171	98,657
October	43	113	156	111,414
November	32	98	130	119,518
December	26	91	117	126,096
1946				
January	21	85	106	134,150
February	10	65	75	143,150
March.. .. .	11	45	56	151,400

SECTION XII.—HOUSING

(i) Assisted Erection of Homes

1. During the year under review loan authorizations for the erection of houses totalled 1,853, involving £2,593,566.

2. This represented an increase of 1,193 loans, involving £1,800,981, more than the previous year.

(ii) Assisted Purchase of Homes

1. During the year under review the purchase of existing dwellings by ex-servicemen with the aid of rehabilitation finance was authorized in 3,242 cases,

2. By comparison the totals for the year ended 31st March, 1945, were 1,272 cases, involving £1,145,042.

3. During the year the Board authorized a publicity campaign asking owners of properties desirous of disposing of properties to make same available to ex-servicemen requiring homes and offering the services of the Rehabilitation Board as a means of arranging for early inspection of all properties offered to determine their suitability. The response was satisfactory, as it was found that, although a large number of the properties directly offered to the Department were not of the required standard, there was a marked increase in the number of direct sales to servicemen effected and consequent increase in applications for loan finance.

(iii) Allocation of State Rental Houses

1. In the year under review a total of 2,085 State rental houses were allocated for occupation by ex-servicemen after examination of the relative urgency of the cases of applicants by District Rehabilitation Committees.

2. The corresponding total for the year ended 31st March, 1945, was 1,507, an increase of 578.