

rates. In that Order in Council the rate for total disability was fixed at \$264 per annum, an amount which was also fixed as the pension for the widow of a member of the forces killed in action.

During the next session of Parliament it was realized that the rates of pension were still quite inadequate, and a Parliamentary committee was appointed to consider the whole question. This committee reported to Parliament towards the end of the session and as a result of its report, an Order in Council was passed on June 3, 1916 (P.C. 1334), putting its recommendations into effect. The pension for total disability was raised to \$480 per annum and the pension for the widow was raised to \$384 per annum. Pensions at the rate of \$288 per annum were paid to widowed mothers and incapacitated fathers who had been wholly or mainly dependent on the soldier son. Previously the widowed mother could get pension only when she was dependent on her son.

The above rates remained in force until October 20, 1917, when a further Order in Council was passed, again raising the rates as from April 1, 1917. The pension for total disability was fixed by that Order in Council at \$600 per annum and the pension for the widow and dependent parent at \$480 per annum. The rates of pension for the children were also increased at this time, while a married soldier was allowed an additional amount.

On December 21, 1918, a further Order in Council (P.C. 3070) was passed which did not change the rates of pension but which provided for the pensioning of a dependent parent at a partial rate of pension, where such parent was only partially supported by a deceased son. It was no longer necessary for such parent to prove that the deceased son had been the whole or main support. An Order in Council of January 2, 1919 (P.C. 3205), increased the allowances paid for children.

During the session of 1919, another Parliamentary committee was appointed, which recommended, among other things, that the pensions should be increased by a bonus of approximately 20 per cent, making the pension for total disability \$720 per annum and the pension of the widow or dependent parent \$576 per annum. The rates for the wife of a disability pensioner and for certain children were also increased.

At the 1920 session of Parliament a further committee recommended an increase in the bonus from September 1, 1920, in such a manner that totally disabled soldiers now receive \$900 per annum and the widow or dependent parent \$720 per annum. It is to be noted that the pension for a parent is contingent upon the income of that parent. It is only when the parent has no income whatever that the maximum pension of \$720 per annum can be paid. In the case of a widowed mother no deduction from pension is made for her earnings or on account of her having free lodgings, or on account of her having an income of \$20 or less a month.

It is interesting to compare the rates paid for the average family since the beginning of the war. In 1914-15 a totally disabled man,