

Number of persons in receipt of benefits under the Pension Act as at Mar. 31, 1927:—

Disability pensioners.....	48,027
Disability pensioners' wives.....	35,339
Disability pensioners' children.....	57,568
Disability pensioners' other relatives.....	1,107
Dependent pensioners.....	19,999
Dependent pensioners' children.....	9,424
Other relatives in addition to main dependant.....	1,969
Total.....	173,374

Scale of Pensions.—The scale of pensions paid to dependent and disability pensioners has been several times revised. Before the Great War the pension for total disability in the case of a private had been \$150 per annum. Since 1920 the total disability pension in the case of a private has been \$900, one-third of this being paid as a bonus during the 5 years from Sept. 1, 1921. This bonus was later incorporated into the ordinary pension under c. 49 of the Statutes of 1925, with the result that the permanent total disability pension for lieutenants and all ranks below is now \$900 for an unmarried person, with an addition of \$300 for wife, \$180 for the first child, \$144 for second child and \$120 for each additional child. Rates of pensions for all ranks were published in tables on pp. 960-962 of the 1925 Year Book, to which the reader is referred.

Federal Appeal Board.—Under c. 62 of the Statutes of 1923, a Federal Appeal Board of not less than 5 nor more than 7 members was constituted, to hear appeals from the decisions of the Board of Pension Commissioners. As amended by c. 49 of 1925, the provision is as follows:—

“Upon the evidence and record upon which the Board of Pension Commissioners gave their decision an appeal shall lie in respect of any refusal of pension by the Board of Pension Commissioners on the ground that the injury or disease or aggravation thereof resulting in disability or death was not attributable to or was not incurred during military service.”

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION.

1.—Land Settlement—The Soldier Settlement Board.

In the past year there have been increasing activities on the part of the Land Settlement Branch of the Department of Immigration and Colonization in connection with the settlement of immigrants on agricultural lands. Since 1924 settlement under the Soldier Settlement Act has gradually diminished, only those to whom the Board was previously committed being eligible for loans. In the calendar year 1927 only 29 new loans were granted. Placement and after-care of settlers under the British Family Scheme and other agreements are now the most active features of the work of the organization. According to the diaries of field officials for the period from April 1 to Sept. 30, 1927, more than 65 p.c. of their time was spent in connection with general land settlement as distinct from soldier settlement. During that period 27,561 visits were made in connection with soldier land settlement, while 48,513 visits were in connection with general land settlement and departmental investigations.

Under the British Family Settlement Scheme 1,122 families arrived during the year, making a total of 2,631 families, or 14,532 persons. It is expected that 400 families will be brought out during 1928 to complete the original agreement.