

Section 5.—Pensions and other Provision for War Veterans.*

Pensions Division.—This Division is responsible for the administration of returned soldiers' affairs under the Department of Pensions and National Health Act and the War Veterans' Allowance Act. It is also responsible by direction of the Canadian Pension Commission for certain administrative duties under the Pension Act and the Returned Soldiers' Insurance Act. The Representative of the Treasury is responsible for all payments under these Acts.

The Annual Report for the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1934, shows a decrease in the number of ex-members of the Forces who received in-patient hospital treatment, the number being 11,718 as against 13,343 in 1932-33 and 14,267 in 1931-32. The Department maintains eight hospitals, situated in the following centres: Halifax, Saint John, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Toronto, London, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver. The sheltered employment workshops are still operated at Hamilton, Montreal and Halifax and one shop by the Red Cross Society at Victoria.

One of the features of the activities of the Department is provision for the care of veterans in a departmental institution for pensioners who through age or infirmity are unable to care for themselves. The number of such cases shows an increase during the year, the total on Mar. 31, 1934, being 250 as against 213 a year previous and 198 on Mar. 31, 1932. The issue of orthopædic and surgical appliances has been maintained with a slight decrease. The number of pensioners who have been granted relief was 12,735 in 1933-34 as compared with 14,368 in 1932-33, 12,303 in 1931-32 and 8,811 in 1930-31. The expenditure on relief in 1933-34 was \$1,912,563; in 1932-33, \$1,978,284; 1931-32, \$2,082,052; and 1930-31, \$907,010.

The provision under which the Department assumes responsibility in respect of accidents sustained by pensioners of 25 p.c. and upwards when engaged in industry has been continued. During the fiscal year under review, the number of claims was 180; in 1932-33, 179, and in 1931-32, 200. The expenditure was as follows: 1933-34, \$36,420; 1932-33, \$17,641; 1931-32, \$49,878. The expenditure is largely governed by the number of fatal and serious accidents.

The following is a summary statement of the manner in which the funds appropriated by Parliament have been dealt with and also sets forth the costs of administration and the adjudication of pensions. The cost of administration was 3.642 p.c.

NET PAYMENTS BY DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND NATIONAL HEALTH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MAR. 31, 1934.

PENSIONS BRANCH.

<i>Net Cash Payments—</i>		\$
European War pensions.....	41,839,831	
War Veterans' allowances.....	1,650,314	
Unemployment relief.....	1,912,563	
Industrial problem cases and vocational loans.....	648	
Sheltered employment.....	42,718	
Hospital allowances.....	1,314,907	
Total Paid in Cash.....		\$46,760,981

*Revised by E. H. Scammell, Secretary, Pensions Division, Department of Pensions and National Health. See also 1930 Year Book, pp. 982-983.