

As the result of an arrangement with the Department of National Defence, whereby hospital services of the Department of Pensions and National Health were made available to members of the Active Service Forces, the number of men receiving in-patient hospital treatment during the fiscal year 1939-40 increased to 27,292 from 12,453 in 1938-39 and 11,443 in 1937-38. In the last-named period treatment was given to ex-members of the Forces only. The Department maintains hospitals in eight principal cities throughout Canada.

The Department also provides accommodation in its hospitals for pensioners who, through age or infirmity, are unable to care for themselves. Such cases numbered 360 on Mar. 31, 1940, compared with 407 on the same date of 1939, 377 during 1938 and 299 during 1937. The issue of orthopædic and surgical appliances remains constant. The number of pensioners who were granted relief during the fiscal year 1939-40 was 8,907, compared with 10,732 during 1938-39 and 11,178 during 1937-38. Expenditure on relief amounted to \$1,847,229 in 1939-40, \$2,186,683 in 1938-39 and \$2,232,398 in 1937-38.

The Department continued to assume financial responsibility for industrial accidents suffered by workmen in receipt of pension of 25 p.c. disability or over. During the fiscal year 1939-40, \$74,995 was paid in 502 claims, as compared with payments of \$77,841 in 455 cases during 1938-39, and \$39,997 in 317 cases during 1937-38.

The disbursements of the Department (including \$1,123,676 for National Health, and War Appropriations of \$903,176) amounted to \$60,553,471 in the fiscal year 1939-40. Of this, \$42,437,744 was paid as Pensions, \$7,058,011 as War Veterans' Allowances and \$1,856,318 as Unemployment Assistance. Detailed expenditures are shown in the Annual Report of the Department for 1939-40 at p. 56.

The Canadian Pension Commission.—The Commission, under the terms of the Pension Act, has exclusive jurisdiction to deal with and adjudicate upon all matters relative to the award, and amount, of pension for disability or death arising from service with the Forces. By regulations established under the War Measures Act, its powers are extended to deal with cases arising from service during the present War.

6.—Pensions in Force, as at Mar. 31, 1918-40

Year Ended Mar. 31	Dependants		Disabilities		Totals	
	Pensions	Liability	Pensions	Liability	Pensions	Liability
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
1918.....	10,488	4,168,602	15,335	3,105,126	25,823	7,273,728
1919.....	16,753	9,593,056	42,932	7,470,729	59,685	17,063,785
1920.....	17,823	10,841,170	69,203	14,335,118	87,026	25,176,288
1921.....	19,209	12,954,141	51,452	18,230,697	70,661	31,184,838
1922.....	19,606	12,687,237	45,133	17,991,535	64,739	30,678,772
1923.....	19,794	12,279,621	43,263	18,142,145	63,057	30,421,766
1924.....	19,971	12,037,843	43,300	18,787,206	63,271	30,825,049
1925.....	20,015	11,804,825	44,598	19,816,380	64,613	31,621,205
1926.....	20,005	11,608,530	46,385	21,456,941	66,390	33,065,471
1927.....	19,999	11,419,276	48,027	22,811,373	68,026	34,230,649
1928.....	19,975	11,209,351	50,635	24,374,502	70,610	35,583,853
1929.....	20,002	11,090,158	54,620	26,095,150	74,622	37,185,308
1930.....	19,644	10,742,518	56,996	27,059,992	76,640	37,802,510
1931.....	19,676	10,985,518	66,669	29,226,208	86,345	40,211,726
1932.....	19,308	10,859,806	75,878	30,998,571	95,186	41,858,377
1933.....	18,745	10,624,775	77,967	31,124,543	96,712	41,749,318
1934.....	18,236	10,339,971	77,855	30,453,454	96,091	40,793,425
1935.....	18,241	10,372,607	78,404	30,406,414	96,645	40,779,021
1936.....	18,175	10,381,121	79,124	30,473,353	97,299	40,854,474
1937.....	18,186	10,417,158	79,789	30,365,865	97,975	40,783,023
1938.....	18,105	10,411,095	79,876	30,270,960	97,981	40,682,055
1939.....	17,896	10,318,775	80,104	30,094,890	98,000	40,413,665
1940.....	18,177	10,610,293	80,133	29,845,959	98,310	40,456,252