

all disabilities which he claims to be due to his military service. Prior to second hearing the applicant is furnished with a complete and detailed summary of all evidence available in the departmental records pertaining to his case and is allowed six months in which to prepare his claim. If the decision of the Pension Commission on the second hearing is adverse to the applicant, he then has the right to appear before an Appeal Board of the Commission sitting in his district and to call witnesses if he so desires. The judgment of the Appeal Board is final and the application cannot be considered again, except by special permission of an Appeal Board when it is shown, to the satisfaction of such a board, that an error has been made by reason of evidence not having been presented or otherwise.

This procedure has proved eminently satisfactory for claims arising out of the First World War. Not only is the applicant made fully aware of the reasons which preclude entitlement to a pension, but he is given adequate expert assistance by the Veterans' Bureau or by ex-service men's organizations in the preparation of his claim. It has resulted in making final settlement of claims where the Commission contended that the evidence adduced by the petitioner was insufficient to show that the cause of disability or death was contingent on conditions or events in the Service.

The procedure governing cases arising out of the Second World War was revised in 1944, when all time limits for preparation and submission of applications in such cases were suspended by Order in Council, the main provisions of which were incorporated in the Pension Act in 1946. When a claim is not wholly granted, the applicant may renew his application without the imposition of any time limits and may advise the Commission of his intentions as to the further prosecution of his claim, either by renewed hearing or appeal. The procedure followed is very similar to that for veterans of the First World War, the main difference being the non-existence of time limits and the applicant's right to by-pass the "renewal hearing" and take his case direct to an Appeal Board sitting in his district.

In 1945-46, a thorough revision of all legislation affecting veterans of the Second World War, passed since the commencement of the War, was carried out by a Select Committee of the House of Commons which was appointed to: (1) consider all legislation passed since the commencement of the War with the German Reich relating to the pensions, treatment, and re-establishment of former members of His Majesty's Armed Forces and other persons who have otherwise engaged in pursuits closely related to war; and (2) prepare and bring in one or more Bills to clarify, amend or supplement the above legislation. This Committee completed its deliberations in July, 1946, and comprehensive legislation based on its recommendations was incorporated in amendments to the Pension Act (10 Geo. VI, c. 62) assented to Aug. 31, 1946.

The most important legislative change resulting from the Committee's recommendations was the restoration of the so-called "insurance principle" for members of the Services who, in the Second World War, did not serve in a theatre of actual war. The operation of this principle which applies to the First World War and, in effect, provides pension coverage for disabilities incurred during service, whether due to service or not, was modified in 1940 so as to apply only to cases in which the member of the Services had served outside Canada. Following the restoration of the insurance principle, a review of all cases affected by this change was carried out by the Canadian Pension Commission, action being taken to institute awards where indicated. Other changes provided for the extension of the benefits of the Canadian Pension Act to persons domiciled in Canada at the commencement of