

It is the responsibility of the Commission to adjudicate upon claims for injury or disease resulting in disability or death during service with the Naval, Army or Air Forces of Canada, and to consider claims for the supplementation of awards to Canadians who suffered disability or death while serving in the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom or its allies in World War I or World War II.

The Pension Act.—Under the Pension Act (R.S.C. 1927, c. 157 and amendments):—

- (1) Pensions payable to veterans of the Fenian Raid and Northwest Rebellion under authority of Orders in Council are supplemented to the Canadian scale.
- (2) Pensions payable by Great Britain on account of Canadians who served in the South African War are supplemented to the Canadian scale.
- (3) Pensions for peacetime service prior to World War I payable under Orders in Council are supplemented to the Canadian scale.
- (4) Pensions are paid to Veterans of World Wars I and II for injury or disease or the aggravation thereof resulting in disability or death attributable to or incurred during service.
- (5) Pensions for peacetime service between World Wars I and II and subsequent thereto are paid when the injury or disease or aggravation thereof resulting in disability or death arose out of or was directly connected with service.
- (6) Special provision is made for the Canadian Army Special Force.

In previous issues of the Year Book information is given regarding the development of Canadian pension legislation and yearly statistics regarding numbers and liability. As at Dec. 31, 1951, pensions in force were as follows:—

<u>Payable</u>	<u>Pensions</u>	<u>Liability</u>
	No.	\$
To dependants.....	33,854	27,195,386
For disability.....	161,085	69,319,818
TOTALS.....	194,939	96,515,204

The basic scale of pensions was increased with effect from Jan. 1, 1952, and it is anticipated that the annual liability will now approximate \$125,000,000. By the 1951 amendments, the pension paid for a total disability to a former member of the Forces of the rank of major and below with a wife and two or more children amounts to a personal pension of \$125 monthly, an additional \$45 for his wife, \$20 for the first child, \$15 for the second, and \$12 for each additional child. If he is helpless and in need of attendance, he is granted a Helplessness Allowance, which might vary from a minimum of \$480 to a maximum of \$1,400 per annum depending on the amount of attendance required. In the case of the blind, where the attendance required is not constant, the helplessness award is \$960 per annum.

A pensioned widow receives \$100 per month, with \$40 for the first child, \$30 for the second and \$24 for each additional child. If she remarries, she is granted a gratuity of twelve months' pension, and pension usually continues for her children. Pension for a boy expires when he reaches the age of 16, and for a girl at 17. However, it may be continued to the age of 21 if the child is making satisfactory progress in a course of education approved by the Commission.

Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act.—This Act extends pension legislation to a number of civilian groups whose work was closely associated with the World War II war effort, including merchant seamen, auxiliary services personnel, fire fighters who served in the United Kingdom, special constables with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, overseas welfare workers, etc.