

While no changes* have since been made in the Act, provision was included in the Budget of Mar. 14, 1957, for increased rates and ceilings to be effective on July 1, 1957. On that date the maximum rates and annual income ceilings became:—

| <u>Recipient</u> | <u>Monthly- Maximum Allowance</u> | <u>Annual Income Ceiling</u> |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Veterans and widow(er)s, single status..... | 60 | 960 |
| Veterans and widow(er)s, married status..... | 120 | 1,620 |
| Veterans with blind spouse..... | 120 | 1,740 |
| One orphan..... | 40 | 720 |
| Two orphans of one veteran..... | 70 | 1,200 |
| Three or more orphans of one veteran..... | 85 | 1,440 |

At the time these changes were announced, it was estimated that the increase would add nearly \$6,000,000 to the annual liability for the allowances.

The number of veterans and others in receipt of allowances at the close of each of the fiscal years 1952-57, and the amounts of allowances paid, are as follows:—

| <u>As at Mar. 31—</u> | <u>Veterans in Receipt of Allowances</u> | <u>Others in Receipt of Allowances</u> | <u>Total in Receipt of Allowances</u> | <u>Expenditures</u> |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|---------------------|
| | No. | No. | No. | \$ |
| 1952..... | 29,137 | 9,602 | 38,739 | 23,544,760 |
| 1953..... | 30,005 | 10,607 | 40,612 | 27,114,849 |
| 1954..... | 30,650 | 11,737 | 42,387 | 26,486,988 |
| 1955..... | 32,471 | 12,883 | 45,354 | 27,702,077 |
| 1956..... | 37,907 | 14,347 | 52,254 | 39,074,156 |
| 1957..... | 39,664 | 15,578 | 55,242 | 41,259,185 |

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, 56,165 cases were reviewed by the 18 District Authorities across Canada, and 16,160 by the War Veterans Allowance Board at Ottawa (see below), so that changes in the financial, physical or domestic circumstances of the recipients concerned might be reflected in the allowances being paid. Of the 412 decisions appealed during the year, 32 were allowed and 380 were disallowed.

Section 8.—Veterans Commissions and Boards

Canadian Pension Commission.—The Canadian Pension Commission is a statutory body charged with the administration of the Pension Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act. The members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor in Council who may also impose upon the Commission duties in respect of any grants in the nature of pensions, etc., made under any statute other than the Pension Act. It reports to Parliament through the Minister of Veterans Affairs.

It is the responsibility of the Commission to adjudicate on claims for injury or disease resulting in disability or death, incurred during service with the Canadian Navy, Army or Air Force during war or peacetime. The Commission may also supplement certain awards of pension made by the British or Allied Governments (see 1956 Year Book, p. 304).

The Commission's representatives across Canada are called Pension Medical Examiners and they are located in most of the district offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

War Veterans Allowance Board.—The War Veterans Allowance Board is a statutory body set up to administer the War Veterans Allowance Act. The members are appointed by the Governor in Council and the Board reports to Parliament through the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Administration of the Act is decentralized across Canada through 18 District Authorities located in the district offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

* Effective Nov. 1, 1957, the Act was further amended by increasing the single rate to \$70 per month and by raising the annual income ceilings to \$1,080 for single recipients and \$1,740 for those who are married. Some changes were made also in the eligibility requirements with the result that additional groups of veterans and dependants may now be awarded allowances.