

5.—Summary of House Construction under the Veterans' Land Act, as at Mar. 31, 1960

Item	Full-Time Farming	Small Holdings	Commercial Fishing	Provincial Lands	Federal Lands	City-Size Lots	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Houses completed (from 1942).....	1,824	20,612	287	1,394	119	2,217	26,453
Houses under construction.....	54	628	6	21	5	625	1,337
Contracts let (work not yet started)...	136	587	5	103	1	4	836
Net Approvals for New Housing.	2,014	21,825	298	1,518	125	2,846	28,626

Section 5.—Pensions Advocates

Veterans Bureau.—The Veterans Bureau, which has completed its twenty-eighth year of operation, is a branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs and has an office under the direction of a District Pensions Advocate in all districts in Canada in which offices of the Department are situated and at the District Office in London, England.

The duties of Pensions Advocates, most of whom are lawyers, are to assist former members of the Armed Forces and their dependants and former members of the various auxiliary organizations, such as merchant seamen, firefighters and others, in preparing and submitting claims to the Canadian Pension Commission. They also appear as counsel for applicants before the Appeal Boards of the Commission. No charge is made for the services of the Bureau.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1960, 6,520 claims were submitted to the Pension Commission. This figure represents a slight increase over the 6,100 claims submitted during the previous fiscal year.

Section 6.—Veterans Pensions

Previous issues of the Year Book contain information on the development of Canadian pension legislation, together with yearly statistics of numbers and liabilities. The Pension Act has not been amended since 1957. The major amendments at that time which resulted in increased benefits are summarized in the 1959 Year Book, p. 297.

The annual rates for a 100-p.c. disability for all ranks up to and including that of Lieutenant-Colonel and equivalent ranks are:—

	\$
Pensioner.....	1,800
Wife.....	600
First child.....	240
Second child.....	180
Each subsequent child.....	144

For assessments lower than 100 p.c., the awards are proportionately less. The rate of personal pension is slightly higher if the pensioner held the rank of Colonel or higher rank but the additional pension for wives and children remains the same for all ranks.

Attendance allowance, which is payable to a pensioner who is totally disabled and in need of attendance, and which varies from a minimum of \$480 to a maximum of \$1,800 depending on the amount of attendance required, is paid in addition to pension. While a pensioner must be totally disabled to receive this allowance, the disability resulting in the need of attendance may be non-pensionable.

The annual rates of pension for widows and children of all ranks up to and including that of Lieutenant-Colonel and equivalent ranks are:—

	\$
Widow.....	1,380
First child.....	480
Second child.....	360
Each subsequent child.....	288