

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, called Pension Medical Examiners, are located in most of the district offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs across the country.

The Pension Act.—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 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.

In addition to pension, attendance allowance is payable to a pensioner who is totally disabled and in need of attendance, and varies from a minimum of \$480 to a maximum of \$1,800 depending on the amount of attendance required. While a pensioner must be totally disabled to receive this allowance, the disability resulting in the need of attendance may be non-pensionable. The rates for the various classifications under which awards are made are set by the Commission. These rates are reviewed from time to time and such changes as may be considered advisable made. In line with this policy, the rate of attendance allowance for total blindness was increased from \$1,200 to \$1,440 per annum with effect from Apr. 1, 1960, and adjustments made where applicable.

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

Rates for widows are slightly higher if the deceased veteran held the rank of Colonel or higher rank but those for children remain the same for all ranks.

The Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act provides for the payment of pensions to, or on behalf of, persons who served in certain civilian groups that were closely associated with the World War II effort, and who suffered injury or death as a result of such service; these include merchant seamen, saltwater fishermen, auxiliary services personnel, ferry pilots of the RAF Transport Command, firefighters who served in the United Kingdom, etc.

6.—Pensions in Force under the Pension Act, as at Dec. 31, 1960

Service	Disability		Dependant		Disability and Dependant	
	Pensions in Force	Liability	Pensions in Force	Liability	Pensions in Force	Liability
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
World War I.....	46,054	36,128,959	14,681	19,449,683	60,735	55,578,642
World War II.....	105,332	69,130,275	17,278	19,077,573	122,610	88,207,848
Peacetime.....	1,359	727,210	505	787,739	1,864	1,514,949
Special Force.....	1,644	921,966	171	212,901	1,815	1,134,867
Totals.....	154,389	106,908,410	32,635	39,527,896	187,024	146,436,306