

government of the country concerned. 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 Act was amended by SC 1961, c. 10, which became effective Mar. 1, 1961. The principal changes are as follows:—

1. Basic rates of pension for disability and death are increased.
2. Pension on behalf of dependent children continues to the end of the month in which the child reaches the statutory age limit—16 for boys and 17 for girls—instead of being discontinued the day following the child's birthday.
3. When a widow dies, pension at a rate not exceeding that payable for a widow may be paid to any person who is competent to assume and has assumed the care of the child or children for as long as there is a child under 21 years of age in respect of whom pension is payable. Previously this housekeeper's allowance could be paid only to a daughter.
4. Where a veteran who is residing with a woman with whom he is prohibited from celebrating a marriage by reason of a previous marriage either of such woman or himself with another person shows to the satisfaction of the Commission that he has, for seven years or more, continuously maintained and publicly represented such woman as his wife, the Commission may, in its discretion, deem such woman to be his wife for the purposes of the Pension Act. Upon the death of the veteran such a woman may also be deemed to be his widow for the purposes of the Act.
5. Maximum grants for last illness and burial expenses are increased to amounts equal to those available under the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Burial Regulations.
6. The maximum pension payable to a parent in cases in which pension has been awarded to a widow or divorced wife or a woman eligible by virtue of Sect. 36(4) of the Act has been increased from \$480 to \$576 per annum and if pension on behalf of the widow or other primary dependant referred to is discontinued, a parent may be awarded pension in any amount not exceeding schedule rates.
7. The benefits of the Act are extended to Canadians with the required domiciliary status who served during World War I or World War II with other Commonwealth or Allied Forces and whose claims for pension have been rejected by the governments concerned. These veterans may apply direct to the Commission and have their claims considered under the terms of the Pension Act. If such claims are allowed, pensions are paid at Canadian rates and these pensions, as well as pensions supplementing those granted by other countries, may be paid anywhere in the world as long as the recipient has resided in Canada for at least one year since the date of the disability or death in respect of which the benefits are conferred.

The total estimated increase in annual liability as a result of the increase in basic rates was \$31,121,565. At Dec. 31, 1961, the annual liability was \$175,178,618 as compared with \$146,436,306 at the end of 1960.

The new rates of pension result in the basic scale being the same for all ranks up to and including Colonel and equivalent ranks. Following is a comparison of the new basic rates with those formerly in effect:—

<i>Item</i>	<i>Annual Rate Formerly in Effect</i>	<i>Annual Rate Effective Mar. 1, 1961</i>
	\$	\$
Man—100 p.c. disability*	1,800	2,160
Additional pension, if married—		
Wife	600	720
One child	240	324
Two children	420	564
Each additional child	144	192
Widow	1,380	1,656
One child	480	648
Two children	840	1,128
Each additional child	288	384
Dependent parent—maximum award	1,080	1,296
Two dependent parents—maximum award	1,380	1,596

* For assessments lower than 100 p.c., the awards are proportionately less.