

Affairs. The Board acts as an appeal court for an applicant or recipient aggrieved by a decision of a District Authority and may, on its own motion, review and alter or reverse any adjudication of a District Authority. The Board is also responsible for instructing and guiding the District Authorities in the interpretation of policy and for advising the Minister with respect to Regulations concerning the administration of the Act.

**War Veterans Allowance District Authorities.**—In 1950, 18 District Authorities were established in the regional districts of the Department of Veterans Affairs and granted full power to adjudicate on all matters arising under the War Veterans Allowance Act. In 1960, a separate Authority, the Foreign Countries District Authority, located in Ottawa, was established to look after recipients living outside Canada. The members of a District Authority are employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs appointed by the Minister with the approval of the Governor in Council.

**War Veterans Allowances.**—The purpose of the War Veterans Allowance Act, 1930 is to provide an allowance to otherwise qualified war veterans who, because of age or infirmity, are no longer able to derive their maintenance from employment and to ensure that their income does not fall below the scale specified in the Schedule to the Act. Widows and orphans of recipients of the allowance are eligible for benefits. Since its inception the Act has been amended on 13 different occasions to meet additional needs of veterans and their dependants. The most recent amendments, passed in 1965, incorporated into the Act the increased monthly rates and annual ceilings authorized under the Appropriation Act effective Sept. 1, 1964, and granted service eligibility to allied veterans who served overseas in the Imperial or Allied Forces during World War I, in Britain only, provided they were domiciled in Canada at the time of joining such forces. This is the same service eligibility now enjoyed by former members of His Majesty's Canadian Forces. The amendments allowed for further exemptions in property and income and provided for administrative improvements. Veterans of the Canadian, Commonwealth and Allied Forces may obtain the benefits provided under the Act if their war service, age or incapacity, residence and financial circumstances meet the prescribed requirements. An otherwise qualified applicant or recipient is allowed to own personal property not exceeding \$1,250 if single, and \$2,500 if married and may also have an interest of up to \$10,000 in his residence. The present monthly rates and the maximum total annual income ceilings are:—

<i>Item</i>	<i>Monthly Rate</i>	<i>Annual Income Ceiling<sup>1</sup></i>
	\$	\$
Single.....	94	1,596
Married.....	161	2,664
One orphan.....	60	1,008
Two orphans.....	105	1,808
Three or more orphans.....	141	2,016

<sup>1</sup> Where a recipient or spouse is blind, the income ceiling is \$120 higher.

At Apr. 30, 1966, there were 85,672 recipients of War Veterans Allowances, made up of 55,771 veterans, 29,585 widows and 316 orphans; 665 of the total resided outside Canada. The annual liability for all recipients was \$95,587,683.

**Civilian War Pensions and Allowances.**—Part XI of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act makes available to certain groups of civilians, their widows and orphans, benefits similar to those available to veterans under the War Veterans Allowance Act. These groups, which performed meritorious service in World War I or World War II, are: Canadian merchant seamen of both Wars; non-Canadians who served in Canadian merchant ships in either War; Canadian voluntary aid detachments of World War I; Canadian