

deduction of \$120 per day (\$60 from each allowance) for every day beyond 21 on which the member or senator did not attend a sitting of the House of Commons or Senate, unless unable to attend because of illness or public or official business.

A member of Parliament contributes 7.5% of his sessional indemnity toward his retirement allowance, which is based on the average of the sessional indemnity received over the best consecutive six years of his pensionable service accumulated as follows: 3.5% of this six-year average for each of the first 10 years of pensionable service; 3% of this average for each of the next 10 years; 2% of this average for each of the next five years; and 2% of this average for each of the years of pensionable service earned by his contributions from salary for extra duties performed, for example, as a minister; subject to an overall maximum of 75% of that best six-year average. The member holding the office of prime minister contributes from the salary payable to him under the Salaries Act an amount equal to 6% of that salary to the consolidated revenue fund. Survivors' benefits are as follows: 60% of the member's pension entitlement to the widow or widower; if there is a surviving parent, 10% of the member's pension entitlement for each child up to three; and if there is no surviving parent, 20% of the member's pension entitlement for each child up to four. A member who was a member on March 31, 1970 had a year in which to elect to come under the plan described here or to remain under a previous plan, described in the *Canada Year Book 1969* p 75.

An act to make provision for the retirement of members of the Senate (SC 1965, c.4) entitles a senator appointed after June 2, 1965 to become a contributor under the provisions of the Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act. Senators appointed prior to that date and who have not reached age 75, who wish to come under the provisions of this act, are also entitled to become contributors. Under the provisions of the Retirement Act, as amended, a senator contributes 6% of \$30,700. A senator appointed before June 2, 1965 who within one year of reaching age 75 resigns, or who resigns because of some permanent infirmity disabling him from performing his duties, may be granted an annuity equal to two-thirds of the sessional indemnity. The widow of a senator granted such an annuity may receive an annuity equal to two-ninths of it.

Every former prime minister who held office for four years will receive from the consolidated revenue fund two-thirds the annual salary provided for prime ministers under the Salaries Act beginning when he ceases to hold any office in Parliament, or reaches age 65, whichever is the later. The allowance continues during his lifetime. The widow of a prime minister will receive annually one-half the allowance that was being paid or that would have been paid in the event that he died before receiving it. This allowance would commence immediately after her husband's death and continue during her natural life or until her remarriage.

None of these allowances is payable while the recipient remains a member of Parliament.

The federal franchise. The present federal franchise laws are contained in the Canada Elections Act (RSC 1970, c.14, 1st Supp.) as amended by the Election Expenses Act (SC 1973-74, c.51). Generally, the franchise is conferred upon all Canadian citizens who have reached age 18 and ordinarily live in the electoral district on the date fixed for the beginning of the enumeration at the election. Persons denied the right to vote are: the chief electoral officer and the assistant chief electoral officer; judges appointed by the Governor-in-Council; the returning officer for each electoral district; inmates of any penal institution; persons whose liberty of movement is restricted or who are deprived of the management of their property because of mental disease; and persons disqualified by law for corrupt or illegal practices.

The special voting rules set out in Schedule II to the Canada Elections Act prescribe voting procedures for members of the Canadian forces, for members of the federal public service posted abroad, and also for veterans receiving treatment or domiciliary care in certain institutions.

Electoral districts, voters on list, votes polled and names of members of the House of Commons elected at the 31st general election, May 22, 1979 are given in Table 3.4