WAR PENSIONS.

The general administration of the various enactments providing for pensions and allowances in respect of service in the present and former wars and the carrying-out of decisions of the War Pensions Board and the War Pensions Appeal Board are functions of the Social Security Department.

LEGISLATION.

Section 17 of the Finance Act, 1941 (effective from 1st September, 1941), amended the war veterans' allowances legislation as follows:—

- (a) The rate of allowance payable in respect of each child of a veteran was increased from $\pounds 13$ to $\pounds 26$ per annum:
- (b) The maximum basic allowance payable in respect of a veteran, his wife and children, was increased from £156 to £208 per annum:
- (c) The limit up to which the basic allowance could be supplemented on economic grounds was increased from £182 to £234 per annum.

DISSECTIONS OF WAR PENSIONS CURRENT AT 31ST MARCH, 1942.

	War	Pensions A	Act, 1915.	War Pensions Extension Act, 1940.			Totals.		
Class of Pension.	Number of Pensioners	Number of Children,	Annual Value,	Number of Pen- sioners,	Number of Children.	Annual Value.	Number of Pensioners	Number of Children.	Annual Value.
Ex-members of forces-			ı.	}		£			£
Permanent	12,171	8	806,836	24		1,277	12,195	8	808,113
Temporary	3,433	4	267,688	2,209	,,	202,196	5,642	4	469,884
Dependants of disabled ex- members	2,932	3,656	237,711	339	379	29,477	3,271	4,035	267,188
Widows	[-1,953]	599	217,419	545	440	73,168	2,498	1,039	290,587
Other dependants of deceased members	2,405	97	89,552	180	76	7,281	2,585	173	96,833
Totals	$ _{22,894} $	4,361	1,619,206	3,297	895	313,399	26,191	$ _{5,259}$	1,932,605

Economic Pensions payable at 31st March, 1942, in Supplementation of Statutory War Pensions.

(A)	War Pens	ions Act, 1915.	War Pensions Extension Act, 1940.		Total.	
Class of Pension.	Number.	Annual Value.	Number.	Annual Value.	Number.	Annual Value.
Ex-members with permanent	2,641	£ 196,303	4	£ 312	2,645	£ 196,615
pensions Ex-members with temporary pensions	1,068	80,180	726	56,135	1,794	136,315
Widows	724	27,060	256	8,388	980	35,448
Widowed mothers	98	4,530	57	2,690		7,220
Totals	[-4,531]	-308,073	1,043	67,525	5,574	375,598

Pensions payable outside New Zealand at 31st March, 1942.

Cla	War Pensions Act, 1915.	War Pensions Extension Act, 1940.	Total.				
Ex-members of forces-							
Permanent					849		849
Temporary					54	13	67
Wives and parents of ex-	members	: Tempo	rary		110	1	111
Dependants of deceased 1			v				
Widows					214	12	226
Other dependants					322	8	330
Totals					 1,549	34	1,583

SUMMARY OF WAR PENSION PAYMENTS.

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AMAGE AND THE	London.	Australia.	Canada.	South Africa.	Foreign Countries. New Zealand.		Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Total payments to 31st March, 1941	1,304,914	849,676	47,433	9,700	14,086	30,635,712	32,861,521	
Payments in 1941–42	46,285	31,739	3,752	484	841	1,713,577	*1,796,678	
Total payments to 31st March, 1942	1,351,199	881,415	51,185	10,184	14,927	32,349,289	34,658,199	

^{*} Includes £178,135 in respect of war pensions in connection with the present war and £1,062 to members of the Emergency Reserve Corps.