

1920.
NEW ZEALAND.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
PENSIONS DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1920.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 70 of the Pensions Act, 1913.

The COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS to the Hon. the MINISTER OF PENSIONS.

SIR,—

Pensions Department, Wellington, 31st July, 1920.

I have the honour to furnish herewith, for the information of Parliament, the report of the Department relating to war, old-age, widows', military (Maori War), and miners' pensions for the year ended 31st March, 1920.

The following summaries show at a glance the position at the close of the year :—

PENSIONS IN FORCE AND ANNUAL VALUE AT 31ST MARCH, 1920.

—	Number of Pensions.	Statutory Pensions.	Allowances under Finance Act, 1917.	Total Pensions.	Average Pension.	
					Statutory.	Total.
		£	£	£	£	£
War	34,571	1,869,366	..	1,869,366	54	54
Old-age	19,993	471,826	259,909	731,735	23	36
Widows'	3,444	185,968	..	185,968	54	54
Military	939	33,804	9,490	43,294	36	46
Miners'	415	23,543	..	23,543	56	56
Totals	59,362	2,584,507	269,399	2,853,906	..	..

GROSS PAYMENTS, YEAR 1919-20.

—					Statutory Pensions.	Allowances under Finance Act, 1917.	Total Pensions.
					£	£	£
War	..	..	..	..	1,812,419	..	1,812,419
Old-age	..	..	..	..	475,869	257,099	732,968
Widows'	..	..	..	..	136,815	..	136,815
Military (Maori War)	..	..	..	..	34,973	10,112	45,085
Miners'	..	..	..	..	16,652	..	16,652
Totals	..	..	..	..	2,476,728	267,211	2,743,939

Cost per head of European population, £2 6s. 9d.

PENSION LEGISLATION.

During the year legislation was embodied in the Finance Act, 1919, amending certain of the provisions relating to war, widows' (civil), and miners' pensions, providing for pensions in respect of the death and disablement of police officers, and extending the benefits of the War Pensions Acts to persons already in receipt of pensions payable in respect of service in the Boer War.