

*Disabled Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment Act, 1930.*

Although this Act to provide for re-establishment of disabled ex-soldiers in civil employment or occupation became law in October, 1930, it was not possible, owing to lack of finance, to put the Act into operation until July, 1931, when local advisory committees representative of the returned soldiers of the Dominion, South African War veterans, War Funds Societies, organizations of employers and of workers, the New Zealand Branch of the British Red Cross and Order of St. John, and the Government, were set up in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. These committees appointed sub-committees in the smaller centres. To act in conjunction with the committees, an employment officer was appointed at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Up to the present the efforts of the committees and employment officers have been confined to the classification of applicants, to the finding of employment for disabled soldiers and to the providing of vocational training at technical schools. While the procuring of suitable employment for disabled men is difficult during the present economic depression, when there are thousands of able-bodied unemployed available, the committees and employment officers have been able, in addition to procuring work of a casual nature, to obtain positions for sixty-two men. As it is trusted that the corner of the economic depression has been turned, and that trade and industrial conditions will improve from now on, it is hoped that the efforts of the committees and employment officers will slowly but surely meet with better success, particularly so if it is possible at an early date to place some funds at their disposal to assist in the work of enabling these disabled ex-soldiers to regain their place in civil life.

## STATISTICS IN REGARD TO CIVIL PENSIONS.

|                                                                                         | Old-age.    | Widows'.   | Maori War. | Miners'.         | Blind.   | Epidemic. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------------|----------|-----------|
| Pensions in force at 31st March, 1931 ..                                                | 28,995      | 4,566      | 170        | { 481*<br>395† } | 330      | 138       |
| New pensions granted, 1931-32 .. ..                                                     | 5,806       | 798        | ..         | 175              | 45       | ..        |
| Deaths during 1931-32 .. ..                                                             | 2,188       | 8          | 27         | 56               | 13       | ..        |
| Cancellations during 1931-32 .. ..                                                      | 296         | 647        | ..         | 4                | 2        | 27        |
| Net increase or decrease .. ..                                                          | +3,322      | +143       | - 27       | +115             | +30      | -27       |
| Pensions in force at 31st March, 1932 ..                                                | 32,317      | 4,709      | 143        | { 583*<br>408† } | 360      | 111       |
| Total children in receipt of pension, 31st March, 1932 ..                               | ..          | 9,695      | ..         | ..               | ..       | 165       |
| Total European pensioners sixty-five years and over at 31st March, 1932 ..              | 25,716      | ..         | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Total female European pensioners sixty years to sixty-four years at 31st March, 1932 .. | 4,991       | ..         | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Percentage of European pensioners to total European population ..                       | 2.1         | ..         | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Total Maori pensioners .. ..                                                            | 1,572       | 346        | 50         | ..               | 39       | ..        |
| New claims lodged .. ..                                                                 | 7,079       | 922        | ..         | 236              | 71       | ..        |
| New claims rejected .. ..                                                               | 1,284       | 113        | ..         | 56               | 17       | ..        |
| Number of children on whose account pension granted ..                                  | ..          | 1,829      | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Annual liability at 31st March, 1932 ..                                                 | £1,353,360  | £345,471   | £7,007     | £74,035          | £17,179  | £4,998    |
| Average pension per annum .. ..                                                         | £41 18s.    | £73 7s.    | £49        | £74 14s.         | £47 14s. | £45       |
| Gross expenditure for year 1931-32 ..                                                   | £1,277,107  | £340,162   | £7,582     | £69,785          | £16,710  | £5,580    |
| Increase or decrease on figures of previous year ..                                     | +£118,319   | +£14,164   | -£1,520    | +£11,344         | +£914    | -£742     |
| Cost per head of European population ..                                                 | 17s. 7d.    | 4s. 8d.    | 1.3d.      | 11½d.            | 2.8d.    | 0.9d.     |
| Credit from national endowment .. ..                                                    | £34,018     | ..         | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Credit from gold duty .. ..                                                             | ..          | ..         | ..         | £2,832           | ..       | ..        |
| Refunds paid to Public Account .. ..                                                    | £2,641      | £1,142     | £4         | £39              | £59      | ..        |
| Number of pensioners in homes and hospitals ..                                          | 1,066       | ..         | 10         | 5                | 88       | ..        |
| Amount paid to controlling authorities of these ..                                      | £49,479     | ..         | £416       | £323             | £5,059   | ..        |
| Number of pensioners in mental hospitals ..                                             | 125         | ..         | ..         | 2                | 2        | ..        |
| Amount paid to Mental Hospitals Department on account of these ..                       | £5,504      | ..         | ..         | £94              | £81      | ..        |
| Unpaid instalments as at 31st March, 1932 ..                                            | £5,312      | £2,449     | £20        | £220             | £46      | £37       |
| Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid ..                                          | £1,707      | £578       | £4         | £49              | £26      | ..        |
| Average of total family of pensioners ..                                                | ..          | 3.99       | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Average of family under fifteen years ..                                                | ..          | 2.06       | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Total claims lodged to date .. ..                                                       | 120,117     | 16,710     | 1,893      | 2,373            | 632      | ..        |
| Total claims established .. ..                                                          | 94,357      | 14,203     | 1,698      | 1,955            | 469      | 972       |
| Total claims rejected .. ..                                                             | 25,099      | 2,429      | 195        | 397              | 150      | ..        |
| Total number of children benefited .. ..                                                | ..          | 34,653     | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Total deaths .. ..                                                                      | 50,385      | 124        | 1,550      | 751              | 81       | 14        |
| Total guardians appointed .. ..                                                         | ..          | 293        | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |
| Total cancellations .. ..                                                               | 11,655      | 9,370      | 5          | 213              | 28       | 847       |
| Grand total paid to date .. ..                                                          | £19,234,989 | £3,629,620 | £590,900   | £574,258         | £92,268  | £463,457  |
| Total credit from gold duty .. ..                                                       | ..          | ..         | ..         | £51,023          | ..       | ..        |
| Total amount paid on account funeral expenses ..                                        | ..          | ..         | ..         | £6,682           | ..       | ..        |
| Total credit from national endowment ..                                                 | £695,878    | ..         | ..         | ..               | ..       | ..        |

\* Miners.

† Widows.

Total European population at 31st March, 1932, 1,455,167.