

1922.
NEW ZEALAND.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PENSIONS DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

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 1st July, 1922.

I have the honour to furnish herewith, for the information of Parliament, the report of the Department relating to war, old-age, widows', Maori War, miners', epidemic, and police pensions for the year ended 31st March, 1922.

The following comparative statements relate to the annual value and gross payments of all pensions administered by this Department for the past two years:—

PENSIONS IN FORCE, AND ANNUAL VALUE.

Class of Pension.	At 31st March, 1921.		At 31st March, 1922.	
	Number.	Annual Value.	Number.	Annual Value.
		£		£
War	31,764	1,748,865	29,091	1,513,263
Old-age	19,837	737,378	20,491	751,121
Widows'	3,421	198,767	3,343	207,029
Maori War	811	39,739	740	36,260
Miners'	474	29,686	506	31,505
Epidemic	849	71,486	683	54,994
Police	5	390	5	446
Totals	57,161	2,826,311	54,859	2,594,618

GROSS PAYMENTS.

Class of Pension.	1920-21.	1921-22.
	£	£
War	1,886,952	1,726,174
Old-age	731,343	743,620
Widows'	187,430	186,457
Maori War	40,213	37,737
Miners'	26,972	31,212
Epidemic	72,456	65,486
Police	436	433
Totals	2,945,802	2,791,119
Cost per head of European population	£2 8s. 11d.	£2 4s. 9d.

WAR PENSIONS.
TOTAL CLAIMS LODGED TO DATE.

	From Soldiers.	From Dependants.
From 1st September, 1915, to 31st March, 1916	798	681
Year 1916-17	3,958	2,017
Year 1917-18	8,148	3,754
Year 1918-19	14,749	5,292
Year 1919-20	11,493	3,990
Year 1920-21	1,081	1,878
Year 1921-22	367	891
Totals	40,594	18,503

GROSS ANNUAL VALUE OF ALL PENSIONS GRANTED TO DATE.

	Number.	Annual Value.	Average Pension.
From 1st September, 1915, to 31st March, 1916	1,214	£ 56,488	£ 46
Year 1916-17	5,316	285,707	53
Year 1917-18	10,587	780,057	73
Year 1918-19	16,954	1,167,081	68
Year 1919-20	15,183	872,627	57
Year 1920-21	2,207	163,713	66
Year 1921-22	945	63,685	67
Totals	52,406	3,389,358	64

NOTE.—The number of pensions granted as shown herein does not include children's pensions, the values of which, however, form part of the pensions payable to parents (or guardians), and are included in the annual-values total.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL LIABILITY AT THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Class of Pension.	Number.	Annual Value.	Average Pension.
Soldiers (permanent)	4,650	£ 243,463	£ 52
Soldiers (temporary)	15,302	765,690	50
Dependants (temporary)	1,103	79,833	72
Widows of soldiers	1,986	219,542	111
Other dependants of deceased soldiers	6,050	204,735	34
Totals	29,091	1,513,263	52

SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS.

The payments for war pensions show a slight decrease during the year, the figures compared with those of the previous year being as follows:—

	1920-21.	1921-22.
	£	£
Payments made in New Zealand	1,754,382	1,595,139
Payments made in London	72,994	64,772
Payments made in Australia	30,849	50,988
Payments made in Canada .. .. .	..	2,876
Payments made in South Africa .. .. .	..	367
Other foreign payments	252	316
Allotments paid after casualty	28,475	11,586
Other miscellaneous payments .. .. .	..	130
Totals	1,886,952	1,726,174

Summary of Total Actual Payments to the 31st March, 1922. £

From 1st September, 1915, to 31st March, 1916	13,910
Year 1916-17	180,389
Year 1917-18	515,445
Year 1918-19	1,199,755
Year 1919-20	1,812,419
Year 1920-21	1,886,952
Year 1921-22	1,726,174
	<u>£7,335,044</u>

PENSIONS PAYABLE OUTSIDE NEW ZEALAND AS AT THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

	Soldiers.		Wives of Soldiers.	Dependants.		Annual Liability.
	Permanent.	Temporary.	Temporary.	Widows.	Other Dependants.	
Great Britain ..	92	254	20	193	728	£ 62,130
Australia ..	45	241	8	76	177	28,746
Other countries ..	3	20	1	2	9	2,103
Totals ..	140	515	29	271	914	92,979

APPEALS TO THE WAR PENSIONS MEDICAL APPEAL BOARD.

The War Pensions Medical Appeal Board set up in terms of section 2 of the Finance Act, 1920, commenced its sittings in June, 1921, and the appeals heard up to the 31st March, 1922, were dealt with as follows:—

Result of Appeal.	Number of Appeals by Soldiers.	Number of Appeals by Dependants.	Total.
Dismissed	319	5	324
Upheld	23	2	25
Pension reduced	29	..	29
Pension made permanent	4	..	4
Pension cancelled	14	..	14
Totals	389	7	396

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

	European.	Maori.	Total.
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1921	18,999	838	19,837
New pensions granted, 1921-22	2,414	139	2,553
Deaths during 1921-22	1,513	65	1,578
Cancellations 1921-22	313	8	321
Net increase .. .. .	..	..	654
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1922	19,587	904	20,491

Year 1921-22.

Total European population at the 31st March, 1922	1,248,216
Total European pensioners, sixty-five and over, at the 31st March, 1922	15,488
Female European pensioners, sixty to sixty-four, at the 31st March, 1922	4,099
Percentage of European pensioners to total European population	1.6
New claims lodged	3,278
New claims rejected	680
Annual liability at the 31st March, 1922	£751,121
Average pension	£36 13s.
Gross expenditure for year	£743,620
Increase on figures of previous year	£12,277
Cost per head of European population	11s. 11d.
Credit from national endowment	£30,744
Refunds paid to Public Account	£1,504
Number of pensioners in homes and hospitals	1,052
Amount paid to controlling authorities of these	£40,624
Number of pensioners in mental hospitals	93
Amount paid to Mental Hospitals Department on account of these	£3,345
Absolutely forfeited instalments	£3,724
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid	£4,231
Total claims lodged to date	75,313
Total claims established	58,767
Total deaths	30,536
Total cancellations	7,740
Grand total paid since 1898	£9,403,751
Total credit from national endowment	£329,898

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

	European.	Maori.	Total.
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1921	3,267	154	3,421
New pensions granted, 1921-22	497	26	523
Cancellations, 1921-22	575	26	601
Net decrease	78
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1922	3,189	154	3,343
Total children in receipt of pensions at the 31st March, 1922	9,118
Year 1921-22			
New claims lodged	641
New claims rejected	123
Annual liability at close of year	£207,029
Average pension	£62
Gross expenditure for year	£186,457
Decrease on figures of previous year	£973
Cost per head of European population	3s. 0d.
Refunds paid to Public Account	£312
Absolutely forfeited instalments	£1,206
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid	£1,836
Average of total family of pensioners	4.3
Average of family under fourteen years	2.7
Total claims lodged to date	8,353	
Total claims established	6,967	
Total number of children benefited	17,290	
Total deaths	139	
Total guardians appointed	81	
Total cancellations	3,566	
Grand total paid to date	£806,573	

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN ON WHOSE ACCOUNT PENSION GRANTED.

	Number of Pensioners.	Children under Fourteen.
1911-12	791	1,923
1912-13	657	1,604
1913-14	421	1,090
1914-15	458	1,158
1915-16	444	1,180
1916-17	421	1,075
1917-18	509	1,198
1918-19	1,349	3,252
1919-20	767	1,870
1920-21	627	1,624
1921-22	523	1,316
Totals	6,967	17,290

MAORI WAR PENSIONS.

	European.	Maori.	Total.
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1921	623	188	811
Deaths during 1921-22	60	12	72
New pensions granted, 1921-22	1	..	1
Net decrease	71
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1922	564	176	740
Year 1921-22			
New claims lodged	1
Number of pensioners previously in receipt of old-age pensions	218
Annual liability at close of year	£36,260
Average pension	£49
Gross expenditure for year	£37,737
Cost per head of European population	7d.
Refunds paid to Public Account	£4 1s. 8d.
Decrease on figures of previous year	£2,476
Pensioners in homes and hospitals	37
Amount paid to controlling authorities of these	£1,917
Absolutely forfeited instalments	£215
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid	£329
Total claims lodged to date	1,880	
Total claims established	1,694	
Total deaths	952	
Total cancellations	2	
Grand total paid to date	£398,948	

MINERS' PENSIONS.							Total.
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1921	..	..	..	..	..	..	474
New pensions granted, 1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	78	
Deaths during 1921-22	..	..	..	..	38		
Cancellations, 1921-22	..	..	..	..	8		46
Net increase	..	..	..	..	..	—	32
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1922	..	..	..	..	..	..	506
							Year 1921-22.
New claims lodged	..	..	..	..	..	..	107
New claims rejected	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Annual liability at close of year	..	..	..	..	..	..	£31,505
Average pension	..	..	..	..	..	..	£62 5s.
Gross expenditure for year	..	..	..	..	..	..	£31,212
Increase on figures of previous year	..	..	..	..	..	..	£4,240
Cost per head of European population	..	..	..	..	..	..	6d.
Credit to vote from gold duty	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,308
Absolutely forfeited instalments	..	..	..	..	..	..	£53
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid	..	..	..	..	..	..	£186
Total claims lodged to date	..	..	..	..	..	987	
Total claims established	..	..	..	..	..	868	
Total claims rejected	..	..	..	..	..	103	
Total deaths	..	..	..	..	..	214	
Total cancellations	..	..	..	..	..	148	
Total amount paid to date..	..	..	..	..	..	£110,962	
Total credit from gold duty	..	..	..	..	..	£24,595	
Total amount paid on account of funeral expenses	..	..	..	..	..	£2,094	

NUMBER OF PENSIONS AT EACH RATE AT THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

						Annual Value.		
						£	s.	d.
150 at £91 per annum	..	..	..	..	..	13,650	0	0
85 at £65 per annum	..	..	..	..	..	5,525	0	0
271 at £45 10s. per annum	..	..	..	..	..	12,330	10	0
506						£31,505	10	0

AGES (IN GROUPS) OF PENSIONERS AT THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

						Miners.	Miners' Widows.
20-30	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
31-40	..	..	..	..	..	5	8
41-50	..	..	..	..	..	29	66
51-60	..	..	..	..	..	62	99
61-70	..	..	..	..	..	80	59
71-75	..	..	..	..	..	38	21
Over 76	..	..	..	..	..	27	9
						242	264
						506	

EPIDEMIC PENSIONS.

							Total.
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1921	..	..	..	..	..	..	849
New pensions granted, 1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	6	
Cancellations, 1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	172	
Net decrease	..	..	..	..	..	—	166
Pensions in force at the 31st March, 1922	..	..	..	..	..	..	683
							Year 1921-22.
New claims lodged	..	..	..	..	..	10	
New claims rejected	..	..	..	..	..	4	
Annual liability at close of year	..	..	..	..	..	£54,994	
Average pension	..	..	..	..	..	£80	
Gross expenditure for year	..	..	..	..	..	£65,486	
Absolutely forfeited instalments	..	..	..	..	..	£178	
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid	..	..	..	..	..	£317	

IMPERIAL PENSIONS.

The administration of all Imperial pensions (war, civil, and others) was transferred to this Department as from the 1st October, 1921, and the figures hereunder show the number in force and annual liability as at the 31st March, 1922 :—

	Number.	Annual Valuc. £	Average Pension. £
	2,083	107,100	51
COST OF ADMINISTRATION.			
			£
Salaries			25,975
Temporary assistance			11,273
Advertising			17
Exchange and commission on money-orders			1,408
Fees for certificates of age			6
Fuel, light, power, and water			92
Interpreters' fees			3
Medical fees			9,225
Office-cleaning			38
Office fittings and requisites, including printing and stationery			2,329
Overtime and meal allowances			73
Contributions to Post Office (fifteen months)			13,416
Postage, telegrams, and rent of boxes			3,195
Proportion of rent, High Commissioner's Office (two years)			400
Rent of offices			9
Telephones			119
Travelling-expenses			4,382
Repairs to typewriters and office furniture			26
Cartage			11
Sundry payments			9
			£72,006
Number of officers on staff at the 31st March, 1922			142
Percentage of cost of administration to total expenditure for year (£2,791,119)			2·6

APPENDIX.

TABLE I.—NUMBER OF WAR PENSIONS IN FORCE AT EACH RATE ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Rate (nearest £1).	Soldiers (Permanent).	Soldiers (Temporary).	Wives and Parents (on Account of Disablement).	On Account of Death.	
				Widows (including Child- ren's Pensions).	Parents and other Dependants
£ £					
261-300 .. .. .	..	..	..	7	..
234-260	24	9	..	28	..
201-233	7	5	11	65	..
191-200	6	11	2	26	..
181-190	66	939	21	103	..
171-180	1	5	..	10	..
161-170	2	4	..	88	..
151-160	10	46	7	187	..
141-150	3	18	58	14	..
131-140	8	17	3	65	..
121-130	59	316	9	390	..
111-120	20	7	13	60	5
101-110	57	109	114	35	7
91-100	91	137	20	8	8
81- 90	386	1	14	36	8
71- 80	396	707	266	506	171
61- 70	222	465	44	8	61
51- 60	836	2,255	256	65	463
41- 50	158	82	30	1	53
31- 40	864	3,071	114	45	1,697
21- 30	1,122	7,015	91	235	3,476
6- 20	312	83	30	4	101
Totals	4,650	15,302	1,103	1,986	6,050

GENERAL.

TABLE II.—PENSIONS GRANTED, DEATHS, AND CANCELLATIONS IN EACH YEAR, WITH NUMBER IN FORCE AND ANNUAL VARIATION.

Year ended 31st March.				Number of Pensions granted.	Deaths.	Cancellations.	In Force at End of Year.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Old-age.</i>									
1899	..	..	..	7,487	38	6	7,443	..	..
1900	..	..	..	4,699	786	71	11,285	3,842	..
1901	..	..	..	2,227	815	292	12,406	1,120	..
1902	..	..	..	1,694	935	388	12,776	371	..
1903	..	..	..	1,391	1,064	622	12,481	..	295
1904	..	..	..	1,063	928	690	11,926	..	555
1905	..	..	..	1,210	890	476	11,770	..	156
1906	..	..	..	2,075	1,038	225	12,582	812	..
1907	..	..	..	2,031	1,097	259	13,257	675	..
1908	..	..	..	1,740	1,189	239	13,569	312	..
1909	..	..	..	2,113	1,112	174	14,396	827	..
1910	..	..	..	2,304	1,169	211	15,320	924	..
1911	..	..	..	2,399	1,423	276	16,020	700	..
1912	..	..	..	2,318	1,469	220	16,649	629	..
1913	..	..	..	2,072	1,569	643	16,509	..	140
1914	..	..	..	3,320	1,479	300	18,050	1,541	..
1915	..	..	..	3,158	1,582	274	19,352	1,302	..
1916	..	..	..	2,268	1,539	277	19,804	452	..
1917	..	..	..	1,823	1,610	320	19,697	..	107
1918	..	..	..	2,146	1,535	348	19,960	263	..
1919	..	..	..	2,235	2,013	310	19,872	..	88
1920	..	..	..	2,289	1,798	370	19,993	121	..
1921	..	..	..	2,152	1,880	428	19,837	..	156
1922	..	..	..	2,553	1,578	321	20,491	654	..
Totals	..	..	..	58,767	30,536	7,740	..	..	..
<i>Widows'.</i>									
1912	..	..	..	791	..	3	788	..	..
1913	..	..	..	657	3	129	1,313	525	..
1914	..	..	..	421	1	193	1,540	227	..
1915	..	..	..	458	2	208	1,788	248	..
1916	..	..	..	444	4	338	1,890	102	..
1917	..	..	..	421	2	285	2,024	134	..
1918	..	..	..	509	6	335	2,192	168	..
1919	..	..	..	1,349	11	319	3,211	1,019	..
1920	..	..	..	767	18	516	3,444	233	..
1921	..	..	..	627	8	642	3,421	..	23
1922	..	..	..	523	3	598	3,343	..	78
Totals	..	..	..	6,967	58	3,566	..	..	..
<i>Maori War.</i>									
1913	..	..	..	577	9	..	568	..	..
1914	..	..	..	747	74	1	1,240	672	..
1915	..	..	..	256	108	..	1,388	148	..
1916	..	..	..	60	124	1	1,323	..	65
1917	..	..	..	10	101	..	1,232	..	91
1918	..	..	..	24	103	..	1,153	..	79
1919	..	..	..	12	125	..	1,040	..	113
1920	..	..	..	5	106	..	939	..	101
1921	..	..	..	2	130	..	811	..	128
1922	..	..	..	1	72	..	740	..	71
Totals	..	..	..	1,694	952	2	..	..	..

TABLE II.—PENSIONS GRANTED, DEATHS, AND CANCELLATIONS IN EACH YEAR, ETC.—*continued*.

Year ended 31st March.				Number of Pensions granted.	Deaths.	Cancellations.	In Force at End of Year.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Miners'.</i>									
1916	..	..	..	120	..	..	120	..	..
1917	..	..	..	153	35	..	238	118	..
1918	..	..	..	91	34	25	270	32	..
1919	..	..	..	82	41	71	240	..	30
1920	..	..	..	237	23	39	415	175	..
1921	..	..	..	107	43	5	474	59	..
1922	..	..	..	78	38	8	506	32	..
Totals	..	..	..	868	214	148	..	..	..
<i>War.</i>									
1916	..	..	..	1,214	1	22	1,191	..	..
1917	..	..	..	5,316	44	1,294	5,169	3,978	..
1918	..	..	..	10,587	86	1,173	14,497	9,328	..
1919	..	..	..	16,954	531	3,493	27,427	12,930	..
1920	..	..	..	15,183	291	7,748	34,571	7,144	..
1921	..	..	..	2,207	358	4,656	31,764	..	2,807
1922	..	..	..	945	369	3,249	29,091	..	2,673
Totals	..	..	..	52,406	1,680	21,635	..	..	..
<i>Police.</i>									
1920	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	..
1921	..	..	..	2	..	..	5	2	..
1922	..	..	..	1	..	1	5	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	6	..	1	..	..	..
<i>Epidemic.</i>									
Number of pensions taken over from Public Health Department on 1st April, 1920				939	..	..	..	..	..
1921	27	..	117	849	..	90
1922	6	..	172	683	..	166
Totals	972	..	289

G. C. FACHE,
Commissioner of Pensions.

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