

1950
NEW ZEALAND

SOCIAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

Presented to Both Houses of the General Assembly Pursuant to Section 141 of the Social Security Act, 1938

HON. J. T. WATTS, MINISTER OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security Department, Wellington, 4th July, 1950.

The Hon. the MINISTER OF SOCIAL SECURITY.

SIR,—

We have the honour to submit the eleventh annual report of the Social Security Department for the year ended 31st March, 1950.

B. F. WATERS, Chairman
C. DUNN, Commissioner
A. E. T. WILLIAMS, Commissioner

} Social Security Commission.

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REPORT

SECTION I—ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT

THE principal legislation administered by the Department consists of Part II of the Social Security Act, 1938, and amendments, under which social security cash benefits are paid, and the War Pensions Act, 1943, and amendments, under which war pensions and allowances, medical treatment for ex-servicemen, and other related matters are administered.

Reports on Part III and Part IV of the Social Security Act, dealing with health benefits and contributions, are submitted by the Health Department and the Land and Income Tax Department respectively.

SECTION II—SOCIAL SECURITY CASH BENEFITS

NEW LEGISLATION

SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT ACT, 1949

This amendment, which came into force from 1st June, 1949—

- (1) Increased the rates of benefits by 5s. a week from 1st June, 1949.
- (2) Postponed the reassessment of widows' benefits on the same basis as age-benefits for widows without children from the sixtieth birthday to the first renewal date thereafter.
- (3) Authorized payment of benefit where a wife or widow was in receipt of a war pension in respect of her own disablement.
- (4) Extended the period for which instalments of benefit are available at paying offices.
- (5) Gave the Social Security Commission statutory authority to recover benefit where *ex gratia* payments are made in lieu of compensation or damages.
- (6) Gave authority for age, widows', invalids', and miners' benefits to be paid to the end of the month, and sickness and unemployment benefits to the end of the week in which a beneficiary dies.
- (7) Extended war servicemen's dependants' allowances to include, under certain circumstances, beneficiaries who were parents of members of His Majesties Forces other than the New Zealand Forces or Mercantile Marine of the British Commonwealth other than New Zealand.

INCREASED INCOME EXEMPTIONS

The allowable other income for age, widows', invalids', sickness, unemployment, and related emergency benefits was increased to £78 a year from 1st January, 1950. Legislation to validate this increase will be introduced this session.

QUARTERLY BENEFITS

SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS

Superannuation benefits, payable at the age of sixty-five years, came into operation from 1st April, 1940, at the rate of £10 a year. This rate is increased by £2 10s. each year, and for the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £32 10s. a year. The maximum rate of £130 a year will be reached in 1988.

During the year 9,882 new benefits were granted and 355 applications were declined. The number of benefits in force increased by 3,517, from 65,839 at 31st March, 1949, to 69,356 at 31st March, 1950, and represents 3·62 per cent. of total population.

Expenditure on superannuation benefits increased by £329,286, from £1,850,079 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £2,179,365 for the year ended 31st March, 1950.

MONTHLY BENEFITS

AGE-BENEFITS

During the year 10,785 new benefits were granted, 774 applications declined, and 109,847 existing benefits renewed for a further year after individual investigation. Included in the new grants were 437 transferred from invalids' benefits and 1,084 from widows' benefits. The number of benefits in force increased by 902, from 116,254 at 31st March, 1949, to 117,156 at 31st March, 1950, and represents 6·12 per cent. of total population. The number of dependent wives not eligible for benefit in their own right but who were included in the husbands' benefits at 31st March, 1950, was 7,861. Included in the beneficiaries at 31st March, 1950, were 492 men receiving the additional allowance of £13 13s. a year paid to veterans of the South African War.

Expenditure on age-benefits increased from £13,790,791 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £15,133,751 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, an increase of £1,342,960.

TABLE 1—AGE-BENEFITS: ESTIMATED AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PEOPLE GRANTED BENEFIT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950 (EXCLUDING TRANSFERS FROM WIDOWS' AND INVALIDS' BENEFITS)

(Estimate based on an analysis of 45 per cent. of benefits granted)

Age.	Men.			Women.				Total.		
	First Application.	Re-application.	Total.	First Application.	Previously Included in Husband's Benefit.	Re-application.	Total.	First Application.	Re-application.	Total.
60	985	..	985	803	1,066	2	1,871	1,788	2	2,856
61	373	20	393	412	154	9	575	785	29	968
62	287	20	307	323	89	18	430	610	38	737
63	265	36	301	278	47	31	356	543	67	657
64	298	44	342	207	4	29	240	505	73	582
60-64	2,208	120	2,328	2,023	1,360	89	3,472	4,231	209	5,800
65	249	24	273	169	4	36	209	418	60	482
66	191	31	222	155	4	36	195	346	67	417
67	217	44	261	105	..	48	153	322	92	414
68	161	53	214	91	..	27	118	252	80	332
69	138	31	169	114	4	44	162	252	75	331
65-69	956	183	1,139	634	12	191	837	1,590	374	1,976
70-74	381	151	532	305	2	118	425	686	269	957
75-79	138	42	180	122	..	46	168	260	88	348
80-84	56	20	76	46	..	22	68	102	42	144
85 and over	9	2	11	24	..	4	28	33	6	39
Sub-total, 70 and over	584	215	799	497	2	190	689	1,081	405	1,488
Total	3,748	518	4,266	3,154	1,374	470	4,998	6,902	988	9,264

TABLE 2—AGE-BENEFITS: ESTIMATED CLASSIFICATION BY MARITAL STATUS OF PEOPLE GRANTED BENEFIT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950 (EXCLUDING TRANSFERS FROM INVALIDS' AND WIDOWS' BENEFITS)

(Estimate based on analysis of 45 per cent. of benefits granted)

Marital Status.	Men.			Women.				Total.		
	First Application.	Re-application.	Total.	First Application.	Previously Included in Husband's Benefit.	Re-application.	Total.	First Application.	Re-application.	Total.
Married	2,796	285	3,081	1,635	1,361	188	3,184	4,431	473	6,265
Single	349	99	448	620	..	60	680	969	159	1,128
Widowed	436	89	525	697	13	195	905	1,133	284	1,430
Separated and divorced	167	45	212	202	..	27	229	369	72	441
Total	3,748	518	4,266	3,154	1,374	470	4,998	6,902	988	9,264

TABLE 3—AGE-BENEFITS: ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF BENEFITS GRANTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950, TO PEOPLE IN 60-64 YEARS AND IN 65 YEARS AND OVER AGE GROUPS ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS

Marital Status.	Men.			Women.		
	60-64 Years.	65 Years and Over.	Total.	60-64 Years.	65 Years and Over.	Total.
(1) Married	58	42	100	76	24	100
(2) Married men with wives under 60 years of age (included in (1) above)	78	22	100	..	..	..
(3) Married women previously in husband's age-benefit (included in (1) above)	..	..	..	99	1	100
(4) Single	53	47	100	70	30	100
(5) Widowed	36	64	100	42	58	100
(6) Separated and divorced	52	48	100	81	19	100
(7) Total	55	45	100	69	31	100

An indication of the age distribution of women under sixty years of age whose husbands were granted age-benefit during 1949-50 is given in the following table, based on an analysis of a cross-section of new benefits which included payment for a dependent wife.

TABLE 4—AGE-BENEFITS: DEPENDENT WIVES INCLUDED IN TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION OF NEW GRANTS, 1949-50
(379 applicants)

Husband's Age at Grant.	Wife's Age at Grant.																	Total									
	25.	26.	30.	33.	36.	40.	41.	42.	43.	44.	45.	46.	47.	48.	49.	50.	51.		52.	53.	54.	55.	56.	57.	58.	59.	
60	1	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	1	2	1	6	5	8	6	7	7	13	17	16	20	20	26	160	
61	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	2	4	3	1	7	4	3	7	4	9	50	
62	1	2	..	1	..	2	4	4	3	2	6	4	2	33	
63	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	3	1	2	4	6	2	2	27	
64	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	25	
65	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	2	3	10	
66	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	1	1	2	1	5	16
67	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	..	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	15
68	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	12	12
69	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	11	11
70	1	1	1	1	1	4	6
71	2	2
72	2	2
73	1	1
74	1	1
75	1	1
76	1	1
77	1	1
78	1	1
79	1	1
80	1	1
81	1	1
84	1	1
Total	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	3	2	6	4	13	11	17	13	15	25	82	34	33	51	42	65	379	

WIDOWS' BENEFITS

Widows' benefits are payable to widows, to wives of mental patients, and to wives who have been deserted by their husbands and who have taken proceedings for maintenance orders under the Destitute Persons Act, 1910. The Department has continued its policy of taking immediate steps to assist women whose husbands have just died.

During the year, 1,883 new benefits were granted, 501 applications declined, and 12,387 existing benefits renewed for a further year. The number of benefits in force decreased from 14,883 at 31st March, 1949, to 14,198 at 31st March, 1950, a decrease of 685.

TABLE 5—WIDOWS' BENEFITS: CLASSIFICATION OF BENEFITS IN FORCE AT 31ST MARCH, 1950

—				With Dependent Children.	Without Dependent Children.	Total.
Widows .. .. .	..	..	..	3,948	8,996	12,944
Deserted wives .. .. .	..	..	..	772	346	1,118
Mental hospital .. .. .	..	..	..	90	46	136
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	4,810	9,388	14,198

Beneficiaries with children receive mothers' allowance up to £78 a year.

Expenditure for all widows' benefits amounted to £2,159,914 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, compared with £1,911,134 for the previous year, an increase of £248,780. Expenditure for the year included £194,421 in respect of women deserted by their husbands.

On the granting of a widow's benefit to a deserted wife the Department undertakes the enforcement of the maintenance order. At the 31st March, 1950, there were 1,104 maintenance orders in operation against defaulting husbands, representing an annual amount of £132,012. During the year, £65,010 was collected by way of maintenance, representing 49 per cent. of the amount of the orders in force and 33 per cent. of the expenditure on benefits for deserted wives.

ORPHANS' BENEFITS

During the year 66 new benefits were granted, 16 applications declined, and 294 benefits renewed for a further year. The number of benefits in force decreased from 371 (in respect of 518 children) at 31st March, 1949, to 366 (in respect of 484 children) at 31st March, 1950. Among the children in respect of whom benefit was being paid at 31st March, 1950, were 36 school-children over the age of sixteen years.

Expenditure increased from £27,623 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £31,176 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, an increase of £3,553.

FAMILY BENEFITS

During the year 19,876 new benefits were granted and 121 applications declined. The number of benefits in force increased from 248,726 in respect of 548,330 children at 31st March, 1949, to 254,920 in respect of 567,587 children at 31st March, 1950. At the end of the year benefits were being paid in respect of 8,592 school-children over the age of sixteen years and 99 incapacitated children over the age of sixteen years.

Expenditure increased from £14,242,202 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £14,850,959 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, an increase of £608,757.

At the request of the beneficiary, family benefit may be credited to the mother's Post Office Savings-bank account or diverted to the Commissioner of Taxes for the purpose of meeting income-tax payments of the beneficiary or her husband. The number of family benefits being paid to Post Office Savings-bank accounts increased from 74,534 at 31st March, 1949, to 80,636 at 31st March, 1950, and the amount so lodged increased from £3,705,398 last year to £4,111,994 for the year ended 31st March, 1950. The number of benefits wholly or partly diverted in payment of income-tax continued to fall from 4,737 benefits last year to 3,825 at 31st March, 1950, and the amount paid to the Commissioner of Taxes for the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £175,945, compared with £198,874 for the previous year.

TABLE 6—FAMILY BENEFIT: NUMBER OF BENEFITS ACCORDING TO SIZE OF FAMILIES, 31ST MARCH, 1949 AND 1950

	Number of Children Receiving Benefit in Family.		Number of Benefits, 31st March, 1949.	Number of Benefits, 31st March, 1950.
1	95,681	94,627
2	75,178	73,924
3	41,488	43,576
4	19,741	20,590
5	8,586	8,906
6	3,975	4,078
7	2,088	2,143
8	1,098	1,178
9	531	527
10 or more	360	371
Total	248,726	254,920
			31st March, 1949.	31st March, 1950.
Total number of children	548,330	567,587

The average number of children in respect of whom benefit was paid per family receiving benefit was 2.13 in 1947, 2.14 in 1948, 2.20 in 1949, and 2.22 in 1950.

INVALIDS' BENEFITS

During the year 907 new benefits were granted, 449 applications declined mainly because medical evidence did not indicate permanent incapacity, and 8,776 existing benefits renewed for a further year. The number of benefits in force decreased by 575, from 10,051 at 31st March, 1949, to 9,476 at 31st March, 1950. The number of dependent wives included in the husband's benefit at 31st March, 1950, was 1,819.

TABLE 7—INVALIDS BENEFITS: AGE AND MARITAL STATUS AT GRANT OF BENEFIT, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

Age.	Single.		Married.		Widowed.		Separated, Divorced, Apart.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
16-19	65	63	..	..	..	..	..	..	65	63
20-29	36	42	12	..	..	..	1	..	49	42
30-39	24	26	26	3	..	3	1	3	51	35
40-49	32	25	53	..	7	6	7	8	99	39
50-59	56	67	250	3	17	22	22	27	345	119
Total	213	223	341	6	24	31	31	38	609	298

Expenditure on invalids' benefits increased from £1,348,616 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £1,397,713 for the year ended 31st March, 1950.

MINERS' BENEFITS

During the year ended 31st March, 1950, 23 new benefits were granted and 14 applications declined. Included in the new benefits were 7 granted to widows of miners who died while in receipt of miner's benefit. The number of benefits in force decreased from 660, including 85 widows, at 31st March, 1949, to 636, including 85 widows, at 31st March, 1950. The number of dependent wives included in the husband's benefit at 31st March, 1950, was 307.

TABLE 8—MINERS' BENEFITS: CLASSIFICATION OF BENEFITS GRANTED TO MINERS, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950, BY AGE, DISEASE, AND TYPE OF MINING

Age.	Gold-mining.			Coal-mining.			Total.		
	Miners' Phthisis.	Other Diseases.	Total.	Miners' Phthisis.	Other Diseases.	Total.	Miners' Phthisis.	Other Diseases.	Total.
47	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
50-54	1	..	1	1	..	1	2	..	2
55-59	2	1	3	..	1	1	2	2	4
60-64 .. ..	..	..	..	2	3	5	2	3	5
65-69	2	..	2	1	..	1	3	..	3
73	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Total ..	7	1	8	4	4	8	11	5	16

Expenditure on miners' benefits increased from £113,659 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £120,061 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, an increase of £6,402.

WEEKLY BENEFITS

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Particulars of applications for unemployment benefit dealt with during the last two years, and the number in force at 31st March, 1949 and 1950, are shown in the following table :—

TABLE 9—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: APPLICATIONS GRANTED AND DECLINED AND BENEFITS IN FORCE, 1948-49 AND 1949-50

	1948-49.			1949-50.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Benefits granted	330	14	344	317	6	323
Applications declined	383	25	408	159	16	175
Benefits in force at 31st March	29	1	30	10	2	12

Payment of additional benefit for a dependent wife was included in 229 of the benefits granted during 1949-50 and in 7 of the benefits in force at 31st March, 1950.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1950, amounted to £10,402, as against £8,948 for the previous year, an increase of £1,454.

TABLE 10—DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS WHICH CEASED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950*

Age.	Number of Weeks on Benefit.										Total.	
	1-4 Weeks.		5-12 Weeks.		13-25 Weeks.		26-52 Weeks.		Over 52 Weeks.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
16-19 ..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
20-29 ..	23	1	15	1	5	1	1	..	..	..	44	3
30-39 ..	44	..	31	..	11	..	3	..	1	..	90	..
40-49 ..	57	..	35	1	16	..	4	..	..	..	112	1
50-59 ..	31	1	17	..	15	..	7	..	..	..	70	1
60 and over ..	4	..	9	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	16	..
Total ..	160	2	109	2	51	1	15	..	1	..	336	5

* Excluding benefits paid for less than three days. Three days and over counted as a full week.

SICKNESS BENEFITS

Particulars of applications for sickness benefit dealt with during the last two years, and the number in force at 31st March, 1949 and 1950, are shown in the following table :—

TABLE 11—SICKNESS BENEFITS: APPLICATIONS GRANTED AND DECLINED, AND BENEFITS IN FORCE, 1948-49 AND 1949-50

	1948-49.			1949-50.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Benefits granted	23,150	7,271	30,421	21,901	6,902	28,803
Applications declined	2,665	832	3,497	2,104	635	2,739
Benefits in force at 31st March	3,536	1,409	4,945	3,539	1,392	4,931

Payment of additional benefit for a dependent wife was included in 12,572 of the benefits granted during 1949-50 and in 2,280 of the benefits in force at 31st March, 1950.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1950, amounted to £1,008,651, compared with £911,107 for the previous year, an increase of £97,544.

TABLE 12—DURATION OF SICKNESS BENEFITS WHICH CEASED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

Period of Sickness Benefit.	Number of Benefits.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
1-4 weeks	9,888	2,615	12,503
5-12 weeks	7,699	2,233	9,932
13-25 weeks	2,855	1,137	3,992
25-52 weeks	1,360	559	1,919
Over 52 weeks	696	375	1,071
Total	21,898	6,919	28,817

EMERGENCY BENEFITS

In cases of hardship a special benefit may be granted at the discretion of the Social Security Commission to any person who is not qualified for any other benefit under the Act but who by reason of age, physical or mental disability, or for any other reason is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants. Emergency benefits may also be granted in lieu of other benefits where it is considered that a course of medical treatment or training in any occupation would be beneficial. As far as possible these benefits are related to the type of benefit which they most closely resemble.

Particulars of emergency benefits granted during the year and in force at 31st March, 1950, together with expenditure for the year, are shown in the following table:—

TABLE 13—EMERGENCY BENEFITS: NUMBER GRANTED, NUMBER IN FORCE, AND EXPENDITURE, 1949–50

Emergency Benefits Related to	Number Granted Year Ended 31st March, 1950.	Number in Force at 31st March, 1950.	Expenditure, Year Ended 31st March, 1950.
			£
Age	44	116	10,097
Widows'	18	128*	16,192
Orphans'	1	12†	818
Family	193	190‡	3,189
Invalids'	3	64	7,524
Sub-total, monthly benefits ..	259	510	37,820
Unemployment	1,461	1,049	} 146,407
Prisoners' dependants'	161	98	
Sickness	849	620	
Sub-total, weekly benefits ..	2,471	1,767	242,335
Total	2,730	2,277	280,155

* Includes 28 receiving mothers' allowance of £78 a year. † In respect of 14 children. ‡ In respect of 231 children (149 beneficiaries with one child and 41 with two children).

Payment of additional benefit for a dependent wife was included in 10 of the age, 5 of the invalids', 138 of the unemployment, and 116 of the sickness benefits in force at 31st March, 1950, and in 277 of the unemployment and 161 of the sickness benefits granted during the year ended 31st March, 1950.

WAR SERVICEMEN'S DEPENDANTS' ALLOWANCES

Parents of deceased members of His Majesty's Forces and the British or New Zealand Mercantile Marine in receipt of benefits under Part II of the Social Security Act, 1938, may, under certain conditions, have the benefit increased by an amount not exceeding £26 a year. At the 31st March, 1950, there were 1,816 of these allowances in force paid in conjunction with 1,623 age, 181 widows', 11 invalids', and 1 miner's benefits. This represents an increase of 142 over the figure of 1,674 for last year.

RECIPROCAL BENEFITS

The information in the following paragraphs is intended to show the extent to which reciprocal agreements operate within the social security scheme, and the benefits under this heading are already included in the ordinary statistics relating to social security benefits.

RECIPROCITY WITH AUSTRALIA

A new reciprocal agreement with Australia covering age, invalids', widows', family, unemployment, and sickness benefits came into operation on 1st July, 1949. Under this agreement the above benefits are available to persons who take up permanent residence in either country and who at any time have lived in the other country. Generally the qualifications for benefits under the reciprocal agreement are the same as for the corresponding benefits in the country in which the applicant has taken up permanent residence, and for the purposes of the agreement residence or birth in one country is regarded as residence or birth in the other. Applicants for age, invalids', or widows' benefits must satisfy the residential qualifications of both countries, and male applicants for age benefits must be sixty-five years of age or over. Apart from the above, benefits under the reciprocal agreement are assessed and paid in the same way as other benefits in the country in which the beneficiary is residing.

The total number of reciprocal benefits in force at 31st March, 1950, was 341, compared with 270 at 31st March, 1949, when reciprocity applied only to age and invalids' benefits.

Particulars of benefits paid under the reciprocal agreement to permanent residents of New Zealand are shown in the following table:—

TABLE 14—RECIPROCITY WITH AUSTRALIA (PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF NEW ZEALAND): BENEFITS GRANTED, &C., AND EXPENDITURE, 1949-50

	Age Benefit.	Widow's Benefit.	Family Benefit.	Invalid's Benefit.	Unemployment Benefit.	Sickness Benefit.	Total.
Number granted	90	18	156	9	..	12	285
Number declined	11	1	5	3	..	1	21
Number terminated	73	..	54	7	..	5	139
Number in force at 31st March, 1950	211	23	79	21	..	7	341
Dependent wives included in number in force	4	..	..	3	..	1	8
Expenditure	£24,882	£1,446	£2,456	£2,470	..	£257	£31,511

There were 4 dependent wives included in grants of sickness benefit.

Under the new agreement beneficiaries ordinarily resident in New Zealand or Australia who go to the other country for a period of temporary residence may continue to receive their benefits during such period of temporary residence. In these cases the benefits are paid through the Government of the country which the beneficiaries are visiting, and the amount spent recovered from the Government of the country in which the beneficiaries normally reside.

Particulars of New Zealand benefits paid in Australia and Australian pensions paid in New Zealand are shown in the following tables:—

TABLE 15—RECIPROCITY WITH AUSTRALIA (AGENCY PAYMENTS IN AUSTRALIA): NUMBER OF NEW ZEALAND BENEFITS PAID IN AUSTRALIA BY AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AS AGENT FOR NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT, 1949-50

	Age Benefit.	Widow's Benefit.	Family Benefit.	Invalid's Benefit.	Unemployment Benefit.	Sickness Benefit.	Total.
Number authorized	98	14	19	2	..	1	134
Number terminated	67	7	16	1	..	..	91
Number in force	31	7	3	1	..	1	43

None of the above agencies included additional payment for a dependent wife.

TABLE 16—RECIPROCITY WITH AUSTRALIA (AGENCY PAYMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND): NUMBER OF AUSTRALIAN PENSIONS PAID IN NEW ZEALAND BY NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT AS AGENT FOR AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, 1949-50

	Age-Benefit.	Widow's Benefit.	Family Benefit.	Invalid's Benefit.	Unemployment Benefit.	Sickness Benefit.	Total.
Number authorized	69	19	17	9	..	2	116
Number terminated	43	12	16	5	..	2	78
Number in force	26	7	1	4	..	..	38

Expenditure on behalf of Australian Government during the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £1,715.

RECIPROCITY WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Reciprocity with Great Britain and Northern Ireland is confined to family benefits and is provided for by agreements which have been in operation since 1st December, 1948.

The number of reciprocal family benefits in force increased from 561 at 31st March, 1949, to 776 at 31st March, 1950.

Particulars of benefits granted, refused, and in force, and expenditure for the year, are shown in the following table:—

TABLE 17—RECIPROCITY WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND: NUMBER OF FAMILY BENEFITS GRANTED, &C., AND EXPENDITURE, 1949-50

Number granted	892
Number refused	6
Number in force at 31st March, 1950 ..	756 (includes 20, Northern Ireland).
Expenditure, year ended 31st March, 1950	£35,653 (includes £486, Northern Ireland).

MISCELLANEOUS

TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFITS IN FORCE

The total number of benefits in force increased from 463,785, or 2,476 per 10,000 of population, at 31st March, 1949, to 473,328, or 2,473 per 10,000 of population, at 31st March, 1950.*

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure on social security cash benefits increased from £34,455,758 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £37,172,149 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, representing £19 13s. 1d. per head of mean population, including Maoris.† Of the expenditure on cash benefits, £17,150,387, or 46·1 per cent., was paid without a means test and £20,021,762, or 53·9 per cent., subject to a means test.

The expenditure on cash and health benefits combined for the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £45,633,258, of which £25,611,496, or 56·1 per cent., was paid without a means test and £20,021,762, or 43·9 per cent., subject to a means test.

* Population, including Maoris, at 31st March, 1950, 1,914,120.

† Mean population

including Maoris, year ended 31st March, 1950, 1,891,307.

TABLE 18—SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS: EXPENDITURE OUTSIDE NEW ZEALAND (OTHER THAN UNDER RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

Details.	Expenditure, 1949-50.
Paid through High Commissioner, London—	£
Age-benefit	794
Widow's benefit	21
Family benefit	13
Invalid's benefit	242
	— 1,070
Paid in Australia—	
Superannuation benefit	4
Miner's benefit	176
	— 180
Total	<u>£1,250</u>

EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS

During the year over 950 displaced persons were brought to New Zealand from Europe, and from their arrival in Wellington on the 27th June, 1949, until the end of the week in which they were placed in employment they were assisted as required by way of emergency unemployment benefit through a temporary office of the Department located in the Displaced Persons Reception Centre at Pahiataua.

Children received free board and lodgings in the camp, and therefore no benefit was paid until they left the camp, when emergency family benefits were granted.

Single people aged sixteen to nineteen years received emergency unemployment benefit up to 5s. a week, provided their weekly income from all sources, including board and lodging, did not exceed £2 5s.

People aged twenty years and over received emergency unemployment benefit up to 10s. a week, provided their weekly income from all sources, including board and lodgings, did not exceed £3 5s. for single people and £5 10s. for married people.

Free board in camp was calculated at £1 a week for people aged sixteen to nineteen years and £1 15s. a week for people twenty years and over.

Between 27th June, 1949, and the closing of the camp on 11th November, 1949, 577 emergency unemployment benefits were granted, 134 of these including payment for a dependent wife. Expenditure on these benefits amounted to £2,986.

On leaving the Reception Centre those who were unable to work and who were in need of assistance were granted emergency benefits according to their circumstances.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

From its inception the International Labour Organization has considered social security a main feature of its activities and in the last thirty years has adopted twenty-two conventions and eighteen recommendations on social security.

The present programme of the Organization in the sphere of social security is directed towards the creation of a network of social security systems embodying the principles contained in the conventions and recommendations, the bringing up to date of the conventions and recommendations, and the extension of social security to undeveloped countries.

At the invitation of the New Zealand Government, the first session of the Committee of Social Security Experts of the ILO met at Wellington from the 8th to 17th February, 1950. Although drawn from various countries, the officers attending the meeting did so not as Government representatives, but as experts in their own right. The meeting was attended by fifteen experts from America, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Denmark,

England, France, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, and Sweden, a representative of member Governments, and an employers' representative from the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization and two representatives of the International Social Security Association.

During this meeting the Committee considered objectives and minimum standards of social security and approved a questionnaire for issue to Governments. Other matters discussed included training in social security administration, actuarial aspects of adjustments of benefits to cost of living, the role of co-operative societies in social security, social security for agricultural workers, and social security statistics.

While in New Zealand the visitors from overseas, through extensive questioning and personal contact with the Department's officers, gained first-hand information regarding the operation of social security in New Zealand.

They also had a brief glimpse of some of the country's tourist resorts, and from their comments it is likely that they will prove to be enthusiastic ambassadors for New Zealand tourist trade.

To facilitate the revision of social security conventions the International Labour Office asked Governments to prepare a monograph on social security legislation according to a uniform plan drafted by the International Labour Office. The Department prepared a monograph in the required form, and this was published in 1949 by the International Labour Office as the first of a series of handbooks on national systems of social security under the title "Systems of Social Security: New Zealand."

SECTION III—SOCIAL SECURITY FUND

TABLE 19—RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY FUND, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

<i>Receipts</i>			<i>Payments</i>		
	£	£		£	£
Balance as at 1st April, 1949—			Monetary benefits—		
Cash	533,874		Superannuation ..	2,179,365	
Imprest	148,044		Age	15,133,751	
Investments	S. 000,000		Widows'	2,159,914	
		8,681,918	Orphans'	31,176	
Social security charge on wages and other income	31,702,570		Family	14,850,959	
Miscellaneous receipts, interest, penalties, and fines	70,603		Invalids'	1,397,713	
		31,773,173	Miners'	120,061	
Recoveries under maintenance orders, widows' benefits*	65,010		Maori War	2	
Grants from Consolidated Fund, vote "Social Security" (Social Security Act, 1938, Section 105 (c))	12,000,000		Unemployment	16,402	
			Sickness	1,008,651	
			Emergency	280,155	
					37,172,149
			Medical benefits, &c.—		
			Medical	2,524,290	
			Hospital	2,011,649	
			Maternity	871,386	
			Pharmaceutical	2,043,843	
			Supplementary	1,009,941	
					8,461,109
			Administration expenses: Social Security Department	783,822	
			Unauthorized expenditure	6,641	
			Social Security (Reciprocity with Australia) Act, 1948: Agency payments	1,715	
			Balance at 31st March, 1950—	£	
			Cash	998,369	
			Imprests	96,296	
			Investments	5,000,000	
					6,094,665
		£52,520,101			£52,520,101

* This item reduces the cost to the Fund on account of widows' benefits by an equivalent amount.

SECTION IV—WAR PENSIONS**Report of the Secretary for War Pensions which has been submitted to the Minister of Defence****NEW LEGISLATION****WAR PENSIONS AMENDMENT ACT, 1949, AND WAR PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES (MERCANTILE MARINE) AMENDMENT ACT, 1949**

These amendments, effective from the 1st June, 1949, increased the maximum basic rate of war-disablement pensions from £3 to £3 10s. a week.

The weekly rate of pension for a wife without dependent children was increased from £1 to £1 5s. and for a wife with dependent children from £1 10s. to £1 15s. The maximum attendant's allowance was increased from £5 10s. to £5 15s.

Pensions to widows of deceased members of the Forces or Mercantile Marine were increased from £2 5s. to £2 10s. a week, and the additional mother's allowance paid where there are dependent children was increased from £1 10s. to £1 15s. a week.

Pensions for children remained at 10s. a week, but pensions payable in respect of orphans whose fathers' deaths were due to war service were increased from £1 to £1 5s. a week.

The War Pensions Board was given authority to grant a war pension in respect of any child adopted by a member. Previously pensions in respect of the death or disablement of a member could be granted only to children adopted before the 31st May, 1940, or the date of disablement or other event to which death was attributable.

War pensions in respect of children were brought into line with the family benefit provisions of the Social Security Act by authorizing payment from a date not earlier than the 1st day of the month of birth, and to the end of the month in which the child attains the age of sixteen years or dies. Pensions for certain girls were made payable to the end of the month in which they attained the age of seventeen years instead of ceasing from the seventeenth birthday as formerly.

The basic rate of war veteran's allowance was increased from £117 plus £117 for a wife, to £130 plus £130 for a wife.

FINANCE ACT (No. 2), 1949

This Act, also effective from the 1st June, 1949, increased the limit of income, including pension, for widowed mothers receiving economic pensions concurrently with dependants' pensions from £3 10s. to £3 15s. for widowed mothers who were wholly dependent on the deceased member, and from £2 5s. to £2 10s. for widowed mothers who were not wholly dependent on the deceased member.

WAR PENSIONS REGULATIONS 1945, AMENDMENT No. 2 (1949/181)

The availability of instalments of war pension was extended to the end of the month following the month in which the instalment became payable. The maximum amount payable to Service patients in hospital was increased from 15s. to £1 a week. The allowance payable to pensioners required to travel for medical examination or treatment was increased from 17s. 6d. to £1 5s. a day for board and lodging and from £1 a day to 13s. 9d. a half-day for compensation for loss of wages.

The provision for endorsing free passes on the New Zealand Railways and New Zealand Railways Road Services to cover escorts of pensioners who are totally blind or have lost both lower limbs above the knee was extended to enable free passes to be endorsed to cover escorts of pensioners who are unfit to travel alone because of a permanent war disability.

INCREASED INCOME EXEMPTIONS FOR WAR VETERANS' ALLOWANCES

The income exemption for war veterans' allowances was increased from £52 to £78 a year from the 1st January, 1950. Legislation to validate this increase will be introduced this session.

DISABLEMENT PENSIONS

PENSIONS GRANTED AND IN FORCE

Applications for disablement pensions have continued to taper off, the number of applications granted and declined during the year ended the 31st March, 1950, being as follows :—

	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Applications granted	92	648	740
Applications declined	172	502	674

TABLE 20—WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS: DISABILITIES IN RESPECT OF WHICH PENSIONS GRANTED TO EX-PERSONNEL OF 1939 WAR
(Total up to 31st March, 1950)

Class of Disability or Disease.	Type of Service.			
	Overseas.	J Force.	New Zealand.	Total.
(1) Infections and infestations	1,869	9	112	1,990
(2) Nervous system	9,589	10	1,646	11,245
(3) Ear, eye, and nose	6,418	15	1,317	7,750
(4) Circulatory and blood system	1,925	1	985	2,911
(5) Metabolism and endocrine system	380	1	172	553
(6) Lungs	3,203	47	1,077	4,327
(7) Diseases of bones, joints, muscles, tendons, and ligaments	5,003	4	1,807	6,814
(8) Digestive system	3,825	7	1,128	4,960
(9) Generative system	316	..	119	435
(10) Gunshot wounds and accidental injuries to bones, joints, and soft tissues	5,997	23	1,183	7,203
(11) Skin	2,329	10	519	2,858
(12) Tumours and neoplastic growths	149	..	48	197
(13) Malformations	300	..	131	431
(14) Amputations	471	..	18	489
(15) Urinary tract	525	2	135	662
(16) Debility	442	..	109	551
Total	42,741	129	10,506	53,376

The total number of disablement pensions in force at 31st March decreased from 37,716 in 1949 to 36,891 in 1950. More detailed information regarding the pensions in force is shown in Table 23 on page 20.

TABLE 21—WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE AT 31ST MARCH, 1950, ACCORDING TO PERCENTAGE OF DISABILITY

Percentage of Disability.	1914 War.			1939 War.		
	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.
100	1,871	25	1,896	510	946	1,456
90-99	76	..	76	53	14	67
80-89	426	5	431	218	92	310
70-79	898	9	907	322	231	553
60-69	810	10	820	260	255	515
50-59	2,003	37	2,040	650	578	1,228
40-49	836	33	869	606	595	1,201
30-39	2,015	28	2,043	1,135	1,198	2,333
20-29	3,357	54	3,411	3,249	3,739	6,988
10-19	1,244	29	1,273	3,033	5,360	8,393
Under 10	49	..	49	29	3	32
Total	13,585	230	13,815	10,065	13,011	23,076

MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

At the 31st March, 1950, there were 165 ex-servicemen of the 1914 war and 308 of the 1939 war receiving in-patient treatment in hospitals as a result of war disabilities.

Medical treatment of war pensioners (including the cost of treatment of pensioners living overseas) amounted to £216,762 for the year, compared with £248,465 for the previous year.

The number of ex-servicemen in the four Red Cross homes at 31st March, 1950, was 76, of which 19 were in Mowai Home, 17 in Evelyn Firth Home, 19 in Rannerdale Home, and 21 in Monticello Home.

During the year 8 original and 105 duplicate artificial limbs were supplied and fitted to war pensioners and major repairs were carried out to 129 artificial limbs.

The Medical Officer in Charge of Treatment has again noted a decline in the number of new applications for war pension on account of pulmonary tuberculosis. The incidence of amœbiases has remained much the same, 62 new cases being diagnosed during the year.

The Medical Officer in Charge of Treatment has reviewed in detail the incidence of tuberculosis among applicants for war disablement pension and has made the following comments:—

- (1) The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis is slightly higher among Naval personnel than among personnel of the Army or Air Force.
- (2) The incidence of tuberculosis in personnel other than Maoris who served overseas is much the same as for the Civil population.
- (3) The incidence of tuberculosis in Maori personnel who served overseas, while greater than that for non-Maori men overseas, is much less than that for Maori Civil population, and indicates that the higher incidence of tuberculosis among Maoris is due to environment rather than any inherent susceptibility to the disease.
- (4) Mass radiology has proved its worth in eliminating unsuspected cases from the Services.
- (5) Early observation and treatment does not always prevent progress of the disease.

Approximately 1,500 ex-servicemen applied for pensions on account of pulmonary tuberculosis between 1939 and 1949, and of these approximately 1,400 were considered to show some disability.

The results of treatment in the cases reviewed is summarized in the following table :—

TABLE 22—MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR TUBERCULOSIS: RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF PERSONNEL OF ARMY, AIR FORCE, AND NAVY WHO APPLIED FOR WAR PENSIONS, 1939-49

Condition.	All Patients.		Patients Diagnosed by Routine X-ray.	
	All Services Overseas and in New Zealand	Army Overseas.	All Services Overseas and in New Zealand.	Army Overseas.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Apparently cured	29·3	30·2	39·6	40·0
Quiescent	21·8	19·4	20·4	22·7
Stabilized	17·7	15·4	15·6	12·0
Active	15·0	16·5	14·2	14·6
In hospital	10·4	11·2	7·1	7·1
Dead	5·8	7·3	3·1	3·6
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

During the year the Department has continued to co-operate with other Departments and organizations concerned with the welfare of ex-servicemen. Information and advice has been supplied to the Rehabilitation Department and the Disabled Servicemen's Re-establishment League to facilitate the rehabilitation and special training of ex-servicemen, and the Medical Officer in Charge of Treatment has supplied medical statistics and other information to the authorities responsible for compilation of the medical war history.

CONCESSIONS TO DISABLEMENT PENSIONERS

Railway and bus concessions to pensioners for total and permanent disablement and for locomotor disabilities for which a permanent pension for over 50 per cent. disablement is paid cost £14,548, compared with £7,029 for the previous year.

Loading on life-insurance policies of war pensioners is paid by the Department where the loading is due to war disabilities, and £1,143 was paid during the year, compared with £819 for the previous year.

DEPENDANTS' PENSIONS

The number of applications for dependants' pensions granted and declined during the year ended 31st March, 1950, was as follows :—

	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Applications granted	242	732	974
Applications declined	134	245	379

The total number of pensions in force decreased from 8,791 at 31st March, 1949, to 8,622 at 31st March, 1950.

TABLE 23—WAR PENSIONS (DISABLEMENT AND DEPENDANTS): NUMBER IN FORCE AND ANNUAL VALUE, 31ST MARCH, 1950

	Number of Pensioners.			Number of Children.			Annual Value.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Disablement pension—							£	£	£
Permanent ..	13,585	10,065	23,650	..	..	..	1,595,266	699,473	2,294,739
Temporary ..	230	13,011	13,241	..	..	..	25,314	773,074	798,388
Sub-total ..	13,815	23,076	36,891	..	..	..	1,620,580	1,472,547	3,093,127
Dependant's pension—									
Dependants of disabled serviceman	2,509	923	3,432	936	463	1,399	200,048	85,678	285,726
Widows ..	2,377	1,582	3,959	180	683	863	415,996	350,635	766,631
Other dependants of deceased servicemen	275	956	1,231	55	927	982	19,320	48,870	68,190
Sub-total ..	5,161	3,461	8,622	1,171	2,073	3,244	635,364	485,183	1,120,547
Total ..	18,976	26,537	45,513	1,171	2,073	3,244	2,255,944	1,957,730	4,213,674

The number of widows and wives receiving mother's allowance at 31st March, 1950, was 2,080.

TABLE 24—WAR PENSIONS PAID OUTSIDE OF NEW ZEALAND: NUMBER IN FORCE, AND ANNUAL VALUE, AT 31ST MARCH, 1950

Class.	Number of Pensioners.			Annual Value, 31st March.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Disablement—				£	£	£
Ex member on permanent war pension ..	848	138	986	89,947	10,845	100,792
Ex member on temporary war pension ..	1	301	302	194	20,439	20,633
Dependant—						
Widows	244	125	369	36,504	25,065	61,569
Wives and other dependants	180	104	284	11,043	6,577	17,620
Total	1,273	668	1,941	137,688	62,926	200,614

ECONOMIC PENSIONS

Economic pensions subject to a means test may be granted to disablement pensioners whose disabilities are such that their ability to undertake employment is seriously impaired and to dependants of deceased servicemen. The number of applications granted and declined during the year ended the 31st March, 1950, was as follows:—

	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Applications granted	344	1,085	1,429
Applications declined	114	317	431

The total number of economic pensions being paid at 31st March, 1950, was 6,888, compared with 7,126 at 31st March, 1949.

TABLE 25—ECONOMIC PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE AND ANNUAL VALUE AT 31ST MARCH, 1950

Class of Pension.	Number of Pensions at 31st March, 1950.			Annual Value at 31st March, 1950.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Ex-member with permanent pension ..	3,394	384	3,778	£ 368,942	£ 42,053	£ 410,995
Ex-member with temporary pension ..	43	877	920	4,770	97,632	102,402
Widows	1,361	762	2,123	85,817	47,105	132,922
Widowed mothers	18	49	67	931	2,261	3,192
Total	4,816	2,072	6,888	460,460	189,051	649,511

TABLE 26—ECONOMIC PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE AT 31ST MARCH, 1950, ACCORDING TO PERCENTAGE OF DISABILITY

Percentage of Disability.	1914 War.			1939 War.		
	Number on Permanent War Pensions.	Number on Temporary War Pensions.	Total.	Number on Permanent War Pensions.	Number on Temporary War Pensions.	Total.
100	1,341	18	1,359	211	648	859
90-99	30	..	30	5	5	10
80-89	179	2	181	26	19	45
70-79	479	5	484	51	41	92
60-69	327	5	332	30	46	76
50-59	757	9	766	30	77	107
40-49	220	4	224	30	41	71
Under 40	61	..	61	1	..	1
Total	3,394	43	3,437	384	877	1,261

WAR VETERANS' ALLOWANCES

During the year ended the 31st March, 1950, 831 allowances were granted and 143 applications declined. The number in force at 31st March increased from 3,367 in 1949 to 3,997 in 1950. Of the allowances in force, 2,375 included payment for a dependent wife and 170 were gratuities being paid to widows of war veterans. Expenditure on war veterans' allowances increased from £562,634 for the year ended 31st March, 1949, to £743,999 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, an increase of £181,365.

EXPENDITURE, WAR PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES

Expenditure for the year on war pensions—*i.e.*, disablement, dependants', and economic pensions—excluding expenditure on treatment, &c., railway and bus concessions, amounted to £4,282,223, being £2,271,371 in respect of the 1914 war and £2,010,852 in respect of the 1939 war. Funeral grants in respect of deceased ex-servicemen cost £7,391 for the year. This item is included in the costs of medical treatment shown on page 18.

The total expenditure on war pensions and allowances in respect of service in the Armed Forces, Mercantile Marine, South African War, and Emergency Reserve Corps amounted to £5,034,039 for the year ended 31st March, 1950, compared with £4,581,532 for the previous year. Further details relating to this expenditure are included in Table 30 on page 24.

TABLE 27—WAR AND OTHER RELATED PENSIONS, SUNDRY PENSIONS, AND ANNUITIES : EXPENDITURE IN NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

Payments Made in	Type of Pension.			
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Australia	64,397	18,075	831	83,303
Canada	6,668	8,392	168	15,228
London	56,893	29,529	578	87,000
South Africa	261	216	..	477
Fiji .. .. .	..	44	..	44
Foreign countries	541	108	93	742
New Zealand	2,142,611	1,954,488	779,895	4,876,994
Total	2,271,371	2,010,852	781,565	5,063,788

WAR PENSIONS BOARDS

Most of the work of the two War Pensions Boards is carried on at Head Office, but the Boards have continued their visits to other parts of the Dominion. Pensioners have been interviewed and many pensions have been made permanent. During these visits the Returned Services Association and other ex-servicemen's organizations were given the opportunity to present special cases and to discuss various matters of interest concerning war pensions and medical treatment of ex-servicemen suffering from war disabilities.

WAR PENSIONS APPEAL BOARD

The number of appeals lodged each year has fallen steadily from the peak of 2,661 in 1944-45 to 465 during 1949-50, and visits of the War Pensions Appeal Board to the four main centres have therefore been less frequent.

TABLE 28—WAR PENSIONS APPEALS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950

—	1914 War.	1939 War.	Mercantile Marine.	War Veteran's Allowance.	Total.
Appeals outstanding, 31st March, 1949	23	184	2	1	210
Appeals lodged, 1949-50	89	374	1	1	465
Total to be dealt with	112	558	3	2	675
Appeals upheld, 1949-50	22	155	1	1	179
Appeals dismissed, 1949-50	60	212	2	..	274
Appeals withdrawn or struck out, 1949-50	4	41	..	1	46
Total disposed of	86	408	3	2	499
Appeals outstanding, 31st March, 1950	26	150	..	..	176
Percentage upheld	25.6	38.0	33.3	50.0	35.9

OVERSEAS PENSIONS PAID IN NEW ZEALAND

The Department has continued to pay war pensions, Service pensions, Civil pensions, retiring-pay, release leave, privilege payments, gratuities, and other temporary grants on behalf of other Governments. Since 1st June, 1949, under the reciprocal agreement with Australia the Department has acted as agent for the payment of Australian social security benefits in New Zealand.

War and other pensions being paid on behalf of other Governments at 31st March, 1950, numbered 4,545, compared with 4,004 a year earlier. Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £421,035, compared with £463,345 for the previous year.

In June, 1949, the Ministry of Pensions in the United Kingdom appointed Mr. H. F. Calder, M.C., a senior member of the Ministry, as its representative in Australia and New Zealand. Mr. Calder, whose headquarters are in Melbourne, has paid three visits to New Zealand since his appointment, and in addition to conferring with departmental officers has personally interviewed 292 applicants and pensioners and conferred with many organizations concerned with the welfare of ex-Imperial servicemen and their dependants in New Zealand. As a result of these interviews a number of new awards have been made and pensions increased.

TABLE 29—PENSIONS PAID IN NEW ZEALAND ON BEHALF OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Government on Whose Behalf Payments Made.	Number in Force at 31st March, 1950.	Expenditure, Year Ended 31st March, 1950.
Great Britain—		£
War	1,682	} 385,256
Civil and Army	1,878	
India : Civil and Army	210	
Pakistan	14	
South Africa—		
War	6	
Civil	16	
Crown agents for the colonies	87	
Southern Rhodesia	4	
Australia	609		33,562
Agency payments under reciprocal agreement	38	1,715
Canada	1	439
South African allotments	63
Total	4,545	421,035

DEMOBILIZATION ALLOWANCES

No allowances were granted during the year and the number in force at 31st March, 1950, was 3, compared with 6 at 31st March, 1949. Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1950, was £902, compared with £1,290 for the previous year.

The need for this allowance has now passed, and payments ceased from 1st April, 1950, the allowances being transferred to the appropriate social security benefit.

B. F. WATERS, Secretary for War Pensions.

SECTION V—GENERAL

PUBLICATIONS

During the year the Department, with the co-operation of the Health Department, published a comprehensive survey of social security entitled "The Growth and Development of Social Security in New Zealand." Copies of this book are on sale at the Government Printing Office.

SUNDRY PENSIONS AND SPECIAL ANNUITIES

Particulars of sundry pensions and special annuities being paid by the Department at 31st March, 1950, were as follows:—

	Number in Force at 31st March, 1950.	Expenditure, Year Ended 31st March, 1950.
Defence and Naval (peacetime service) ..	93	£ 9,205
Judicature	7	7,240
Special annuities	76	13,304
Total	176	29,749

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS AND PENSIONS PAYMENTS

TABLE 30—SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS, WAR AND OTHER PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE AT 31ST MARCH, 1949 AND 1950, AND TOTAL PAYMENTS, INCLUDING PAYMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND ON BEHALF OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Class of Benefit or Pension.	1948-49.		1949-50.	
	Number in Force, 31st March, 1949.	Expenditure, Year Ended 31st March, 1949.	Number in Force, 31st March, 1950.	Expenditure, Year Ended 31st March, 1950.
Social security benefits—		£		£
Superannuation	65,839	1,850,079	69,356	2,179,365
Age	116,254	13,790,971	117,156	15,133,751
Widows'	14,883	1,911,134	14,198	2,159,914
Orphans'	371	27,623	366	31,176
Family	248,726	14,242,202	254,920	14,850,959
Invalids'	10,051	1,348,616	9,476	1,397,713
Miners'	660	113,659	636	120,061
Maori War .. .. .	..	10	..	2
Unemployment	30	8,948	12	10,402
Sickness	4,945	911,107	4,931	1,008,651
Emergency	2,026	251,409	2,277	280,155
Sub-total	463,785	34,455,758	473,328	37,172,149
War pensions and allowances—				
1914 War	19,320	2,104,627	18,976	2,271,371
1939 War	27,187	1,906,232	26,537	2,010,852
War veterans' allowances	3,367	562,634	3,997	743,999
South African War	41	3,892	39	3,826
Mercantile Marine	23	2,700	24	2,403
Emergency Reserve Corps	10	1,447	11	1,588
Sub-total	49,948	4,581,532	49,584	5,034,039
Sundry pensions and annuities	159	27,262	176	29,749
Civil Service Act, 1908 .. .. .	..	39	..	..
Sub-total	159	27,301	176	29,749
Total (cost borne by New Zealand Government)	513,892	39,064,591	523,088	42,235,937
Pensions paid on behalf of and recoverable from other Governments*	4,004	463,345	4,545	421,035
Total payments	517,896	39,527,936	527,633	42,656,972

* For details of this item, see Table 20, page 28.

PROSECUTIONS

During the year the Department asked the police to prosecute 12 social security beneficiaries and 9 war pensioners who deliberately and wrongfully obtained payments to which they were not by law entitled totalling £1,740 and £1,250 respectively. In addition, an imposter who represented himself as a war pensioner and obtained payments totalling £51 was also prosecuted.

Convictions were obtained in every case.

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Administration costs for the year, excluding expenditure of £7,819 on capital items and including £17,581 in respect of the administration of war pensions and allowances, amounted to £793,584. This represented 1.86 per cent. of the total payments shown in Table 30.

During the last two years the authority to grant and review benefits has been delegated by the Commission to Registrars, and the changed procedure has operated smoothly and well. Applications for and reviews of benefit are now finalized more speedily than when all cases were referred to Wellington.

Departmental Inspectors continued to visit branch offices during the year and have contributed considerably to the uniformity of administration between districts.

From the end of June, 1949, to the 11th November, 1949, the Department operated a temporary office at the Displaced Persons Reception Centre, Pahiatua, with a staff of three officers. On the closing of this office the records were transferred to the Registrar of Social Security at Masterton.

The increasing of social security benefits, war pensions, and war veterans' allowances from June, 1949, and the raising of the income exemption for social security benefits and war veterans' allowances from January, 1950, involved a great deal of additional work and was responsible for a large proportion of the overtime worked during the year.

The effective strength of the staff of the Department at 31st March, 1950, was 1,257, the lowest it has been since 1945. The nominal strength at 31st March, 1950, was 1,287, including 220 men and 185 women at Head Office and 519 men and 363 women in district offices.

During the year the Department lost 187 permanent and 32 temporary members of the staff by resignations, termination of services, deaths, &c., and 59 members of the permanent staff by transfer to other Departments. This loss of trained staff, particularly of Powers machinists, as in past years, has been disturbing. Some relief was afforded by the appointment of British immigrants, but of the 19 girls (including 9 machinists) appointed to the staff during the year, 9 (including 6 machinists) resigned or were transferred to other Departments.

The staff-training programme has again proved very beneficial.

In closing, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation of the loyal co-operation and efficient service rendered by officers of the Department during another busy year.

APPENDIX

TABLE 31—CASH BENEFITS: NUMBER IN FORCE AND EXPENDITURE, BY TYPE, 1940-50

Year Ended 31st March	Superannua- tion.	Age.	Widows'.	Orphans'.	Family.	Invalids'.	Miners'.	Maori War.	Unemploy- ment.	Sickness.	Emergency.	Total.
<i>Number in Force</i>												
1940	..	98,282	10,174	330	11,053	11,811	988	12	4,053	2,565	1,043	135,291
1941	..	97,606	10,569	350	16,626	11,936	981	7	1,906	3,452	2,034	182,019
1942	..	44,021	10,765	872	18,316	12,107	888	4	1,841	3,672	2,170	189,308
1943	..	41,448	10,589	395	14,190	11,988	841	2	373	3,699	1,821	187,967
1944	..	49,289	10,836	412	15,950	12,126	795	1	292	4,446	1,915	198,692
1945	..	53,679	10,965	421	24,251	12,205	783	1	198	4,233	2,083	213,472
1946	..	56,181	11,060	400	42,637	12,164	736	1	205	5,416	2,094	241,401
1947	..	57,992	11,833	397	230,021*	12,466	718	1	35	4,273	1,845	486,168
1948	..	61,612	14,145	370	243,137	10,682	685	1	16	4,248	2,141	454,198
1949	..	65,839	14,883	371	248,726	10,051	660	..	30	4,945	2,026	463,785
1950	..	69,356	14,198	366	254,920	9,476	636	..	12	4,831	2,277	473,328
<i>Expenditure</i>												
1940	..	£ 6,517,890	£ 785,952	£ 14,880	£ 252,562	£ 942,196	£ 92,653	£ 1,108	£ 484,497	£ 208,790	£ 86,711	£ 9,837,243
1941	..	240,836	838,368	17,713	411,811	999,648	88,656	1,744	299,161	279,581	130,096	10,405,460
1942	..	445,686	844,928	18,275	539,183	1,011,375	83,258	440	188,528	304,154	124,716	10,701,237
1943	..	603,124	866,597	20,628	730,719	1,036,373	80,100	190	49,639	382,088	118,923	11,711,465
1944	..	778,758	949,099	22,442	876,858	1,067,409	76,652	119	32,816	376,878	115,574	12,897,773
1945	..	995,035	985,452	23,253	1,405,113	1,072,619	74,367	78	27,822	351,866	105,843	18,533,463
1946	..	1,185,508	1,043,593	24,178	2,611,759	1,183,587	88,359	101	31,661	565,420	121,959	16,673,690
1947	..	1,349,689	1,529,010	22,905	12,680,778	1,328,485	105,416	104	24,332	853,328	134,288	20,909,454
1948	..	1,598,757	1,770,622	24,187	13,798,648	1,367,300	110,106	111	8,358	837,093	227,774	32,774,335
1949	..	1,850,079	1,911,134	31,676	14,242,202	1,848,616	113,659	10	8,948	911,107	251,409	34,455,768
1950	..	2,179,365	2,159,914	31,176	14,850,959	1,897,713	120,061	2	10,402	1,008,651	280,155	37,172,149

* Family benefits paid without means test from 1st April, 1946.

TABLE 32—WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE AND EXPENDITURE, BY TYPE, 1940-50

Year Ended 31st March,	1914 War.*	1939 War.*	War Veterans.	South African War.	Mercantile Marine.	Emergency Reserve Corps.	Total.
<i>Number in Force</i>							
1940	23,874	..	2,079	50	..	..	26,003
1941	23,458	551	2,033	47	9	1	26,099
1942	22,894	3,297	1,888	45	3	2	28,129
1943	22,161	7,666	1,807	42	6	19	31,701
1944	21,038	13,037	1,791	44	12	10	35,932
1945	20,849	20,584	1,892	45	18	12	43,400
1946	20,460	26,926	2,029	46	26	11	49,498
1947	20,081	30,028	2,277	42	27	10	52,465
1948	19,715	28,249	2,617	42	24	11	50,658
1949	19,320	27,187	3,367	41	23	10	49,948
1950	18,976	26,537	3,997	39	24	11	49,584
<i>Expenditure</i>							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1940	1,673,730	..	203,439	1,993	..	..	1,879,162
1941	1,649,076	14,376	211,325	1,858	916	3	1,877,554
1942	1,617,481	178,135	210,575	1,581	617	1,062	2,009,451
1943	1,574,062	479,477	224,942	1,504	350	1,985	2,282,320
1944	1,973,069	917,855	224,705	2,550	719	1,404	3,120,302
1945	2,046,005	1,407,460	242,501	3,243	1,652	1,228	3,702,089
1946	1,997,390	1,662,227	275,029	3,547	1,879	1,351	3,941,423
1947	2,036,825	2,080,952	346,694	3,502	2,985	1,336	4,472,294
1948	2,049,391	2,031,194	422,275	3,689	2,727	1,368	4,510,644
1949	2,104,627	1,906,232	562,634	3,892	2,700	1,447	4,581,532
1950	2,271,371	2,010,852	743,999	3,826	2,403	1,588	5,034,039

* Disability and dependants' pensions. For dissection of these, see Tables 33 and 34.

TABLE 33—WAR-DISABILITY PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, 1940-50

31st March,	1914 War.			1939 War.			Total.		
	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.	Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.
1940	11,897	3,993	15,890	..	..	..	11,897	3,993	15,890
1941	12,235	3,543	15,778	..	433	433	12,235	3,976	16,211
1942	12,171	3,433	15,604	24	2,209	2,233	12,195	5,642	17,837
1943	12,117	3,341	15,458	77	5,331	5,408	12,194	8,672	20,866
1944	12,548	2,753	15,301	344	9,836	10,180	12,892	12,589	25,481
1945	13,037	2,059	15,096	926	15,897	16,823	13,963	17,956	31,919
1946	14,071	822	14,893	2,562	20,284	22,846	16,633	21,106	37,739
1947	14,139	526	14,665	5,014	21,020	26,034	19,153	21,546	40,699
1948	14,088	324	14,412	6,545	17,971	24,516	20,633	18,295	38,928
1949	13,812	277	14,089	8,310	15,317	23,627	22,122	15,594	37,716
1950	13,585	230	13,815	10,065	13,011	23,076	23,650	13,241	36,891

TABLE 34—WAR DEPENDANTS' PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, 1940-50

31st March,	1914 War.				1939 War.				Total (Both Wars).			
	Dependants of Disabled Men.	Widows.	Others.	Total.	Dependants of Disabled Men.	Widows.	Others.	Total.	Dependants of Disabled Men.	Widows.	Others.	Grand Total.
1940 ..	3,141	1,906	2,937	7,984	..	..	..	..	3,141	1,906	2,937	7,984
1941 ..	3,098	1,932	2,650	7,680	118	..	..	118	3,216	1,932	2,650	7,798
1942 ..	2,932	1,953	2,405	7,290	339	545	180	1,064	3,271	2,498	2,585	8,354
1943 ..	2,782	2,002	1,919	6,703	828	1,083	347	2,258	3,610	3,085	2,266	8,961
1944 ..	2,855	2,044	838	5,737	832	1,541	484	2,857	3,687	3,585	1,322	8,594
1945 ..	2,903	2,119	731	5,753	892	2,176	693	3,761	3,795	4,295	1,424	9,514
1946 ..	2,808	2,235	524	5,567	950	2,434	696	4,080	3,758	4,669	1,220	9,647
1947 ..	2,732	2,239	445	5,416	1,114	2,106	774	3,994	3,846	4,345	1,219	9,410
1948 ..	2,633	2,291	379	5,303	1,000	1,849	883	3,732	3,633	4,140	1,262	9,035
1949 ..	2,546	2,347	338	5,231	987	1,629	944	3,560	3,533	3,976	1,282	8,791
1950 ..	2,509	2,377	275	5,161	923	1,582	956	3,461	3,432	3,959	1,231	8,622

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