

able to place some 350 disabled ex-soldiers in jobs, of which approximately 20 per cent. represented permanent positions, the balance being in semi-permanent or casual work. With the experience gained since the scheme came into operation in July, 1931, the committees are unanimous in coming to the conclusion that better results for disabled ex-soldiers can be achieved by creating new avenues of employment suitable for the individual need and particular physical disability of the man rather than to continue exploiting the ordinary channels of labour, which through the lack of physical efficiency are practically closed to this class of disabled ex-soldier. Recognizing this, the Christchurch Committee set up a scheme of disabled soldiers' handicrafts, whereby the disabled men manufactured articles at home and sold them through two shops in the city. Later a factory was established, and these men are now making basketware, seagrass furniture, leather cases and bags, toy novelties, and wood-work of all descriptions. In Dunedin a factory, manned by disabled ex-soldiers, operates under the trade name of Disabled Soldiers' Products, and turns out all classes of fibre and leather cases, and of leather work generally. The system in Wellington is somewhat similar to that in Christchurch, whereby goods mostly of leather, wood, and metal are manufactured at home and sold through the agency of two shops, the establishment of a factory being under consideration. In the Auckland District schemes for the manufacture and sale of wire and metal work and basketware are in operation in two towns, and it is hoped that a scheme similar to those operating in the South will shortly be introduced in Auckland City itself. Other avenues which the committees are investigating are tobacco-culture, seed-raising, and the manufacture of New Zealand mementos. In Christchurch fifteen disabled men have been placed on Angora-rabbit farms, and it is expected that these will shortly become self-supporting. The work of the committees and the employment officers, in the face of the adverse conditions of employment and the lack of finance, is to be highly commended on the results shown.

STATISTICS IN REGARD TO CIVIL PENSIONS.

	Old-age.	Widows'.	Maori War.	Miners'.	Blind.	Epidemic.
Pensions in force at 31st March, 1932 ..	32,317	4,709	143	{ 583* 408† }	360	111
New pensions granted, 1932-33	5,534	731	..	100	52	..
Deaths during 1932-33	2,262	3	36	52	9	..
Cancellations during 1932-33	657	750	1	296	8	13
Net increase or decrease	+2,615	-22	-37	-248	+35	-13
Pensions in force at 31st March, 1933 ..	34,932	4,687	106	{ 610* 133† }	395	98
Total children in receipt of pension, 31st March, 1933 ..	..	9,675	..	..	..	127
Total European pensioners sixty-five years and over at 31st March, 1933 ..	27,687	..	..	..	..	..
Total female European pensioners sixty years to sixty-four years at 31st March, 1933 ..	5,592	..	..	..	..	..
Percentage of European pensioners to total European population ..	2.3	..	..	..	..	..
Total Maori pensioners	1,621	353	37	..	41	..
New claims lodged	6,965	827	..	152	74	..
New claims rejected	1,416	112	..	61	20	..
Number of children on whose account pension granted ..	..	1,586	..	..	..	..
Annual liability at 31st March, 1933 ..	£1,305,772	£307,926	£5,194	£56,618	£18,422	£3,690
Average pension per annum	£37 7 7	£65 13 11	£49 0 0	£76 4 1	£46 12 9	£37 13 1
Gross expenditure for year 1932-33 ..	£1,271,157	£311,317	£5,831	£62,563	£18,065	£4,197
Increase or decrease on figures of previous year ..	-£5,950	-£28,845	-£1,751	-£7,222	+£1,355	-£1,383
Cost per head of European population ..	17s. 4d.	4s. 3d.	1d.	10.2d.	3d.	0.7d.
Credit from national endowment	£22,259	..	..	..	..	..
Credit from gold duty .. ..	..	..	..	£3,719	..	..
Refunds paid to Public Account	£577	£69	£8	£5	£2	£5
Number of pensioners in homes and hospitals ..	1,102	..	6	8	96	..
Amount paid to controlling authorities of these ..	£45,179	..	£327	£404	£5,220	..
Number of pensioners in mental hospitals ..	138	..	..	2	2	..
Amount paid to Mental Hospitals Department on account of these ..	£4,814	..	..	£83	£78	..
Unpaid instalments as at 31st March, 1933 ..	£4,867	£2,056	£69	£319	£22	£16
Instalments forfeited and subsequently paid ..	£1,394	£481	£4	£43	£18	£9
Average of family under fifteen years ..	..	2.06	..	..	..	..
Total claims lodged to date	127,082	17,537	1,893	2,525	706	..
Total claims established	99,891	14,934	1,698	2,055	521	972
Total claims rejected	26,513	2,541	195	458	170	..
Total number of children benefited .. ..	..	36,239	..	..	..	..
Total deaths	52,647	127	1,586	803	90	14
Total guardians appointed .. ..	..	328	..	..	..	..
Total cancellations	12,312	10,120	6	509	36	860
Grand total paid to date	£20,506,146	£3,940,937	£596,731	£636,821	£110,333	£467,654
Total credit from gold duty .. ..	..	..	..	£54,742	..	..
Total amount paid on account funeral expenses ..	..	..	..	£7,187	..	..
Total credit from national endowment ..	£718,137	..	..	..	..	..

* Miners.

† Widows.

Total European population at 31st March, 1933, 1,465,833.