

This page was added on 03 December 2012 to included the Disclaimer below.  
No other amendments were made to this Product

#### DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.

## CHAPTER XXVIII REPATRIATION

### § 1. General

The Repatriation Commission, established under the *Repatriation Act* 1920–1964, consists of three full-time members. It is responsible for the administration of the Repatriation Act and associated legislation, all matters of policy, and the general administration and overall supervision of the Repatriation Department. The central office is in Melbourne and there is a branch office, under the control of a Deputy Commissioner, in each State.

The principal functions of the Department are:—the payment of war and service pensions to eligible ex-service men and women and their dependants; the provision of medical treatment to ex-service men and women for injuries and illnesses caused or aggravated by their war service; the provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances to ex-service men and women who are suffering from injuries and illnesses not caused or aggravated by war service; and the provision of medical treatment to widows and dependants of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths are due to war service.

Other functions of the Repatriation Department are outlined in a later section of this chapter (*see* § 5, General Benefits and Miscellaneous, pp. 1220–2).

Benefits are provided in respect of service, not only in the 1914–18 and 1939–45 Wars, but also in the Korea and Malaya operations, with the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve, and the Special Overseas Forces.

### § 2. War Pensions

1. *General.*—The first provision for the payment of war pensions to ex-servicemen and their dependants was made by the Commonwealth Parliament in the *War Pensions Act* 1914. This Act was repealed in 1920 by the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act* 1920 (amended from 31st December, 1950, to the Repatriation Act). The main features relating to war pensions under the *Repatriation Act* 1920–1964 are set out in the following paragraphs.

(i) *Eligibility for Pensions.* Claims for eligibility for war pensions are determined in the first instance by a Repatriation Board in each State of the Commonwealth, and the Repatriation Act provides for a right of appeal from the determination of a Board. Members of women's services are eligible for pensions and other benefits, as prescribed in the Act, on the same basis as male members of the forces. Amendments to the Act in 1943 considerably widened the eligibility provisions, to the benefit, mainly, of members of the Citizen Military Forces who had not served outside Australia. These provisions are summarized as follows.

A member of the forces who served (1) outside Australia, (2) in the Territories of Australia, such as Papua and New Guinea, or (3) within Australia in circumstances which can be regarded as combat against the enemy, is covered for war pension purposes in respect of incapacity or death which may result from any occurrence that happened during the period from the date of his enlistment to the date of the termination of his service in respect of that enlistment.

In other cases where a member served only in Australia, incapacity or death to be pensionable must have been attributable to service.

There is a third ground applicable to all members except those with less than six months' camp service. This provides that, where a condition existed at enlistment, a pension may accrue if it is considered that the condition was aggravated by service.

If, at any time after discharge, an ex-serviceman who served in a theatre of war becomes incapacitated or dies from pulmonary tuberculosis, war pension is payable as if the incapacity or death resulted from an occurrence on service. (*See also* § 3. Service Pensions.) Medical treatment may also be provided.

(ii) *Rates.* The main classes of war pensions are the special (T.P.I.) rate, the general rate and the war widows' pension. These are not subject to a means test except where stated for certain classes of dependants.

The *special rate* of war pension is payable to those who are totally and permanently incapacitated and are unable to earn more than a negligible percentage of a living wage. The weekly rate is £14 5s., plus £2 0s. 6d. wife's allowance and 13s. 9d. for each child under 16 years.

The *general rate* of war pension is the rate payable to those who suffer war-caused disabilities but are not thereby prevented from working, although their earning capacity may be reduced. The actual pension payable is assessed in accordance with the degree of incapacity suffered. The maximum (100 per cent.) rate is now £6 a week. A wife and children under 16 years also receive pensions at rates according to the assessed degree of incapacity of the ex-serviceman, the maximum being £2 0s. 6d. for a wife and 13s. 9d. for each child.

The *war widows' pension* is paid to widows of ex-servicemen who died as a result of war service, and to their children under the age of 16 years. The weekly rates are: widow, £6; first child, £1 19s.; second and each subsequent child, £1 7s. 6d.

(iii) *Other dependants* of an ex-serviceman who is suffering from a disability due to war service may be granted pensions under certain circumstances. Such pensions are subject to a means test and are assessed in accordance with the degree of the ex-serviceman's incapacity. Except in the case of a widowed mother of an unmarried ex-serviceman, other dependants are required to prove dependence on the ex-serviceman.

(iv) *Allowances.* The following allowances are provided in addition to pension.

*Domestic Allowance* (£3 10s. *per week*). This is paid, in addition to pension, to a widow of an ex-serviceman whose death is due to war service, if she is 50 years of age; or is permanently unemployable; or has a dependent child under the age of 16 years, or a dependent child over 16 years being educated and not in receipt of an adequate living wage.

*Attendants' Allowance* (*maximum rate* £5 5s. *per week*). This allowance is paid, in addition to war pension, to certain classes of seriously disabled ex-servicemen, for example, war blinded, those who are paralysed, and certain double amputees.

*Clothing Allowance.* A clothing allowance is paid at various rates (3s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. *per week*) to an ex-serviceman who, as a result of war service, has lost an arm or a leg or, because of an injury to a limb, is required to use a surgical aid or appliance. An amount not exceeding £9 15s. in any one year is also payable to certain other war disabled ex-servicemen.

**Sustenance Allowance.** This allowance is paid where an ex-serviceman is prevented from following his normal occupation through treatment of a war-caused disability or while undergoing medical investigation. The rate payable is the same as the general (100 per cent.) rate pension.

Where an ex-serviceman is receiving in-patient treatment for a war-caused disability or is undergoing periods of essential convalescence immediately following discharge from hospital, a higher rate to bring the sustenance allowance up to the equivalent of the special (T.P.I.) rate is paid.

A wife and children under 16 years also receive pensions at the current general or special rate.

**Recreation Transport Allowance.** This allowance provides transport for recreation purposes and may be paid to an ex-serviceman who, as a result of war service, suffers certain amputations of the arms or legs or is seriously disabled to the extent that his powers of locomotion are negligible.

**Other Allowances and General Assistance.** These include re-establishment loans and allowances, funeral benefits, vocational training allowances for education and training of children, fares and allowances for loss of remunerative time in connexion with medical or pension purposes, and motor vehicle allowances for seriously disabled ex-servicemen.

2. **Appeals Tribunals.**—The principal Act was amended, as from 1st June, 1929, to create tribunals to hear appeals in respect of war pensions. The War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal is empowered to hear and decide any appeal by or on behalf of ex-servicemen or their dependants against a decision of a Repatriation Board or the Repatriation Commission that the incapacity or death of an ex-serviceman did not arise out of war service. Assessment Appeal Tribunals were created to hear and decide any appeal against a current assessment or a "Nil" assessment of war pension made by the Repatriation Commission in respect of the incapacity of an ex-serviceman which had been accepted as arising out of war service. Provision was made by subsequent legislation to enable the tribunals to hear appeals by certain members whose applications for a service pension had been refused on the grounds that they were not suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis or were permanently unemployable.

3. **Summary of War Pensions, 1963-64.**—The following table provides a summary of war pensions for the 1914-18 War, the 1939-45 War, the Korea and Malaya operations and the Far East Strategic Reserve.

**WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1963-64**

Particulars	1914-18 War	1939-45 War	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Total
New claims granted .. ..	2,050	29,119	862	196	32,227
Restorations .. ..	217	760	15	..	992
Claims rejected(a) .. ..	1,678	6,113	271	58	8,120
Pensions cancelled or discontinued..	547	24,606	117	5	25,275
Deaths of pensioners .. ..	5,331	4,075	33	1	9,440
Number of pensions in force at 30th June, 1964 .. ..	111,768	547,376	9,051	658	668,853
Annual pension liability at 30th June, 1964.. .. £'000	23,572	42,668	473	31	66,744
Amount paid in pensions during the year 1963-64 .. .. £'000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	77,265

(a) Number of ex-servicemen who had their claims for all their disabilities rejected.

4. *Classes of War Pensions, Australia, 1963-64.*—(i) *New Claims Granted.* The following is an analysis of the total number of new claims granted during 1963-64.

**WAR PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1963-64**

Class	1914-18 War	1939-45 War	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Total
Ex-servicemen .. .. .	927	7,231	165	58	8,381
Wives of ex-servicemen .. .. .	1,012	7,206	172	44	8,434
Children .. .. .	71	14,231	507	94	14,903
Other dependants .. .. .	40	451	18	..	509
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>29,119</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>32,227</b>

(ii) *Pensions in Force.* The following table shows the number of pensions in force at 30th June, 1964, for each war and for each class of pensioner.

**WAR PENSIONS IN FORCE: AUSTRALIA, 30th JUNE, 1964**

Class	1914-18 War	1939-45 War	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Total
Ex-servicemen .. .. .	44,401	175,301	2,554	223	222,479
Wives .. .. .	42,300	149,027	1,945	143	193,415
Children .. .. .	872	191,671	4,227	252	197,022
War widows .. .. .	23,293	17,108	84	10	40,495
Children of deceased ex-servicemen	125	6,544	116	26	6,811
Orphans .. .. .	17	151	4	..	172
Parents .. .. .	505	7,222	118	3	7,848
Brothers and sisters .. .. .	43	101	3	..	147
Others .. .. .	212	251	..	1	464
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>111,768</b>	<b>547,376</b>	<b>9,051</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>668,853</b>

(iii) *Special Rate Pensions.* At 30th June, 1964, special rate pensions were being paid to the following classes of ex-servicemen.

**WAR PENSIONS: MEMBERS ON SPECIAL RATES OR EQUIVALENT, AUSTRALIA, 30th JUNE, 1964**

Class	1914-18 War	1939-45 War	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Total
Totally and permanently incapacitated ex-servicemen .. .. .	12,312	9,593	39	..	21,944
Blinded ex-servicemen .. .. .	211	240	2	..	453
Tuberculous ex-servicemen .. .. .	388	305	9	..	702
Tuberculous ex-servicemen (intermediate rate) .. .. .	82	215	3	..	300
Temporarily totally incapacitated ex-servicemen .. .. .	281	1,736	25	4	2,046
Ex-servicemen suffering other disabilities .. .. .	43	50	2	..	95
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>13,317</b>	<b>12,139</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25,540</b>

5. Number of War Pensions and Annual Liability, States, 30th June, 1964.—The following table shows the number of pensions in force and annual liability for each war at 30th June, 1964, according to place of payment. (The amount paid is shown on p. 1215.)

**WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY,  
30th JUNE, 1964**

Place of payment	Number of war pensions in force at 30th June, 1964				Annual pension liability (£'000)
	Incapacitated ex-service-men	Dependants of incapacitated ex-service-men	Dependants of deceased ex-service-men	Total	
<b>1914-18 WAR</b>					
New South Wales(a) .. ..	14,235	13,861	8,207	36,303	7,816
Victoria .. ..	14,591	13,937	7,969	36,497	7,785
Queensland .. ..	5,872	5,588	2,380	13,840	3,184
South Australia(b) .. ..	3,502	3,563	1,919	8,984	1,826
Western Australia .. ..	3,476	3,733	1,647	8,856	1,487
Tasmania .. ..	1,859	1,831	985	4,675	1,069
Abroad .. ..	866	1,008	739	2,613	405
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>44,401</b>	<b>43,521</b>	<b>23,846</b>	<b>111,768</b>	<b>23,572</b>
<b>1939-45 WAR</b>					
New South Wales(a) .. ..	61,418	113,025	11,510	185,953	14,940
Victoria .. ..	48,092	94,967	7,979	151,038	11,446
Queensland .. ..	25,520	52,608	4,515	82,643	7,014
South Australia(b) .. ..	17,415	35,414	3,098	55,927	3,972
Western Australia .. ..	15,560	29,187	2,526	47,273	3,465
Tasmania .. ..	6,706	15,259	886	22,851	1,651
Abroad .. ..	590	812	289	1,691	180
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>175,301</b>	<b>341,272</b>	<b>30,803</b>	<b>547,376</b>	<b>42,668</b>
<b>KOREA AND MALAYA OPERATIONS</b>					
New South Wales(a) .. ..	997	2,314	128	3,439	180
Victoria .. ..	580	1,309	56	1,945	98
Queensland .. ..	440	1,140	70	1,650	93
South Australia(b) .. ..	181	475	16	672	34
Western Australia .. ..	215	584	21	820	39
Tasmania .. ..	94	276	8	378	18
Abroad .. ..	47	77	23	147	11
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>2,554</b>	<b>6,175</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>9,051</b>	<b>473</b>
<b>FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE</b>					
New South Wales(a) .. ..	87	167	22	276	12
Victoria .. ..	37	61	5	103	5
Queensland .. ..	67	120	7	194	9
South Australia(b) .. ..	8	10	..	18	1
Western Australia .. ..	22	36	3	61	3
Tasmania .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Abroad .. ..	2	2	2	6	1
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>31</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

6. *Summary of War Pensions.—(i) Number.* The following table shows, for each war and in total, the number of pensions granted, claims rejected, pensions in force, and the annual liability for pensions in each of the years ended 30th June, 1960 to 1964.

## WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA

Year	Pensions granted	Claims rejected (a)	Number of war pensions in force at 30th June				Annual pension liability at 30th June (£'000)
			Incapacitated ex-service-men	Depend-ants of incapacitated ex-service-men	Depend-ants of deceased ex-service-men	Total	
1914-18 WAR							
1959-60 ..	2,343	(a) 2,638	52,324	49,861	22,528	124,713	22,429
1960-61 ..	2,094	2,085	50,338	48,205	22,743	121,286	23,017
1961-62 ..	2,422	1,872	48,670	46,772	23,144	118,586	23,891
1962-63 ..	2,394	1,854	46,606	45,212	23,566	115,384	23,705
1963-64 ..	2,050	1,678	44,401	43,521	23,846	111,768	23,572
1939-45 WAR							
1959-60 ..	28,397	(a) 17,852	155,534	341,985	26,327	523,846	33,057
1960-61 ..	27,202	14,718	159,727	346,391	27,205	533,323	35,147
1961-62 ..	30,794	7,030	165,101	350,297	28,506	543,904	38,553
1962-63 ..	32,496	6,125	170,594	345,914	29,723	546,231	40,546
1963-64 ..	29,119	6,113	175,301	341,272	30,803	547,376	42,668
KOREA AND MALAYA OPERATIONS							
1959-60 ..	908	(a) 1,174	1,864	3,593	255	5,712	311
1960-61 ..	913	848	2,043	4,247	261	6,551	352
1961-62 ..	969	383	2,208	4,919	285	7,412	399
1962-63 ..	1,035	342	2,412	5,618	290	8,320	438
1963-64 ..	862	271	2,554	6,175	322	9,051	473
FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE							
1959-60 ..	53	n.a.	28	28	9	65	4
1960-61 ..	66	118	53	62	15	130	7
1961-62 ..	152	70	104	146	26	276	16
1962-63 ..	193	48	166	264	36	466	24
1963-64 ..	196	58	223	396	39	658	31
TOTAL							
1959-60 ..	31,701	n.a.	209,750	395,467	49,119	654,336	55,801
1960-61 ..	30,275	17,769	212,161	398,905	50,224	661,290	58,523
1961-62 ..	34,337	9,355	216,083	402,134	51,961	670,178	62,859
1962-63 ..	36,118	8,369	219,778	397,008	53,615	670,401	64,713
1963-64 ..	32,227	8,120	222,479	391,364	55,010	668,853	66,744

(a) For the year 1959-60 the figures for claims rejected refer to individual claims for each disability. The basis of showing rejected claims was changed during 1960-61 to show the number of claimants who had the claims for all their disabilities rejected.

(ii) *Amount Paid and Place of Payment.* The following table shows, for the years 1959-60 to 1963-64, the amounts paid in pensions and the place where they were paid.

**WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID(a)**  
(£'000)

Place of payment	1959-60	1960-61 (b)	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64 (b)
New South Wales(c) .. .. .	19,696	22,139	23,046	24,053	26,554
Victoria .. .. .	17,460	19,897	20,140	20,908	22,763
Queensland .. .. .	8,158	9,439	9,650	10,375	11,520
South Australia(d) .. .. .	5,391	6,083	6,008	6,174	6,750
Western Australia .. .. .	4,556	5,050	5,081	5,255	5,774
Tasmania .. .. .	2,559	2,750	2,675	2,831	3,076
Abroad .. .. .	772	762	802	769	828
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>58,592</b>	<b>66,120</b>	<b>67,402</b>	<b>70,365</b>	<b>77,265</b>

(a) Includes domestic allowances paid to widows.

(b) Includes five twelve-weekly payments.

(c) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(d) Includes Northern Territory.

7. *Miscellaneous War Pensions.*—The Commission is also responsible for the payment of pensions and allowances to beneficiaries under the *Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act* 1940-1964, the *Interim Forces Benefits Act* 1947-1964, the *Native Members of the Forces Benefits Act* 1957, and Cabinet decisions granting eligibility to persons who were attached to the armed forces during war time.

(i) *Number of Miscellaneous War Pensions and Annual Liability.* The following table shows the number of pensions under the various Acts and the annual liability at 30th June, 1964.

**MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, AUSTRALIA, 30th JUNE, 1964**

Particulars	Number of pensions in force at 30th June, 1964				Annual pension liability (£)
	Members	Dependants of members	Dependants of deceased members	Total	
Act of grace .. .. .	138	169	61	368	50,511
Seamen's war pension .. .. .	70	110	77	257	29,531
New Guinea civilians .. .. .	1	..	90	91	27,235
Interim forces .. .. .	11	26	..	37	1,052
Native members of the forces	65	166	13	244	12,303
Special overseas service .. .. .	1	5	2	8	488
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>121,120</b>

(ii) *Amounts Paid and Place of Payment.* The following table shows the amounts paid in miscellaneous war pensions and place of payment in each of the years ended 30th June, 1960 to 1964.



## MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID

(£ )

Place of payment	1959-60	1960-61 (a)	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64 (a)
New South Wales(b) ..	64,460	70,201	68,342	71,917	74,934
Victoria .. .. .	30,650	33,582	33,006	33,389	35,282
Queensland .. .. .	20,525	23,693	22,925	18,974	22,441
South Australia(c) ..	13,733	15,375	16,216	15,839	17,374
Western Australia ..	8,115	9,540	7,827	8,620	8,632
Tasmania .. .. .	2,161	2,354	2,177	2,318	2,423
Abroad .. .. .	1,659	2,109	1,011	1,680	186
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>141,303</b>	<b>156,854</b>	<b>151,504</b>	<b>152,737</b>	<b>161,272</b>

(a) Includes five twelve-weekly payments.  
(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

### § 3. Service Pensions

1. **General.**—The *Repatriation Act* 1920-1964 provides for a service pension to be paid, subject to a means test of income and property, to the following persons.

An ex-serviceman aged 60 years or over who served in a theatre of war, or an ex-servicewoman aged 55 years or over who served abroad. No pension is payable to the wife or children under 16 years of age of an ex-serviceman granted a service pension on account of age.

An ex-serviceman who is permanently unemployable and who served in a theatre of war (or in the case of an ex-servicewoman, who served abroad). Service pensions are also payable to a pensioner's wife and up to four children under 16 years of age.

An ex-serviceman suffering incapacity from pulmonary tuberculosis whether or not the person served in a theatre of war. (Only those persons who qualify in this group are entitled to receive both service and invalid pensions at the same time, subject to the maximum permissible income.) Service pensions are also payable to a pensioner's wife and up to four children under 16 years of age.

2. **Rate of Pension.**—The maximum rate of service pension is the same as that for age and invalid pensions paid by the Department of Social Services, namely single ex-serviceman, £6; married ex-serviceman, £5 10s.; wife, £3. The rate for eligible children is 15s. a week for the first child and 2s. 6d. for each other child up to and including the fourth child. Eligible child means a child under 16 years of age, or a child under the age of 18 years who is not receiving an invalid pension and is undertaking full-time education, in which case pension may continue up to the end of the calendar year in which the child reaches 18 years of age.

If an ex-serviceman is receiving a service pension on the ground of being permanently unemployable, his service pension may be increased by 15s. a week in respect of each child other than the first, whether or not such children are eligible for pension in their own right.

Supplementary assistance of 10s. a week may be paid in addition to service pension to an unmarried ex-serviceman who is receiving the maximum rate of service pension, is paying rent or board, and is entirely dependent on his pension, or, if married, on condition that his wife is not receiving an allowance or pension under the Social Services Act or Tuberculosis Act or a service pension under the Repatriation Act.

The means test sets limits to the amount of income or property which a pensioner may have for the purpose of service pension. The amount of service pension payable depends upon the claimant's "means as assessed", which consist of his annual rate of income plus a property component equal to 9d. a fortnight for each complete unit of £10 of net

value of property above £200. For married couples, except where they are separated or in other special circumstances, the income and property of each for purposes of applying the means test is taken to be half the total income and property of both, even if only one is a pensioner or claimant. A person's "means as assessed" may consist entirely of income, entirely of property, or of both income and property components. If his "means as assessed" do not exceed £3 10s. a week, the claimant receives the maximum rate of pension. If his "means as assessed" exceed £3 10s. a week, the rate payable is the maximum rate less the amount by which "means as assessed" exceed £3 10s. a week. If his "means as assessed" are £9 10s. a week or more, or in the case of a married couple £19 a week or more, no service pension is payable.

Income means earnings and other forms of income derived from any source, with certain exceptions, of which the principal are—certain income derived from property, gifts or allowances from children, parents, brothers or sisters, benefits from friendly societies, child endowment, Commonwealth health benefits. The value of board and lodgings received by a pensioner is assessed as income at 12s. 6d. a week. Property includes all real and personal property, such as houses, land, money in hand, in a bank or on loan, shares, investments or legacies, vehicles used for business purposes, livestock. Property does not include an applicant's home, furniture or personal effects, the surrender value of life insurance policies (up to £750), the value of any reversionary interest, the capital value of any life interest, annuity or contingent interest, or vehicles maintained only for personal use.

Eligibility for service pensions was extended on 1st November, 1941, to veterans of the South African War 1899–1902, and in 1943 to members of the Forces of the 1939–45 War. Members of the Forces who served in Korea and those who served in Malaya prior to the commencement of the *Repatriation (Far East Strategic Reserve) Act 1956–1964* are also eligible.

An ex-serviceman or ex-servicewoman in receipt of a service pension is entitled, with certain exceptions, to free medical benefits for disabilities not caused by war. These benefits include general practitioner service, specialist service where necessary, full pharmaceutical benefits, surgical aids and appliances (including spectacles), dental treatment and treatment in Repatriation General Hospitals.

3. Operations, 1963–64.—The following table gives a summary of service pensions during 1963–64. Statistics relating to 200 miscellaneous service pensions are excluded.

Claims granted during year—					
Ex-servicemen	..	..	..	..	6,655
Wives	..	..	..	..	1,708
Children	..	..	..	..	1,259
<i>Total</i>	..	..	..	..	<u>9,622</u>
Claims rejected during year (i.e. number of claimants who had their claims for all their disabilities rejected)					
..	..	..	..	..	1,459
Service pensions cancelled or discontinued during year	..	..	..	..	4,675
Deaths of pensioners during year	..	..	..	..	3,572
Pensions in force at 30th June, 1964	..	..	..	..	64,588
Annual pension liability at 30th June, 1964	..	..	..	..	£12,326,081

4. Number of Service Pensions and Amount Paid.—(i) *Summary. Australia.* The following table shows the number of service pensions in force and the annual liability for pensions for the five years 1959–60 to 1963–64.

**SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, AUSTRALIA**

Year	Number of service pensions at 30th June payable to—					Annual pension liability at 30th June (£'000)	
	Aged ex-servicemen	Ex-servicemen who are—		Dependants(a) of ex-servicemen where the ex-serviceman is—			Total
		Permanently unemployable	Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	Permanently unemployable	Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis		
1959-60 .. ..	18,193	12,140	1,379	12,080	2,026	45,818	6,924
1960-61 .. ..	22,125	12,645	1,273	12,520	1,739	50,302	8,344
1961-62 .. ..	27,479	13,603	1,246	13,597	1,663	57,588	10,430
1962-63 .. ..	30,818	14,278	1,160	14,368	1,537	62,161	11,379
1963-64(b) ..	32,834	14,471	1,118	14,701	1,464	64,588	12,326

(a) Includes dependants of deceased service pensioners. (b) Statistics relating to 200 miscellaneous service pensions are excluded. They were not applicable prior to year ended 30th June, 1964.

(ii) *Amount Paid and Place of Payment.* The following table shows for the years 1959-60 to 1963-64 the amount paid in pensions and the place of payment.

**SERVICE PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID (£'000)**

Place of payment	1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
New South Wales(a) ..	2,360	2,735	3,156	3,547	3,990
Victoria .. ..	1,518	1,731	2,122	2,475	2,827
Queensland .. ..	1,080	1,213	1,625	1,681 (c)	1,912
South Australia(b) ..	644	763	1,097	1,243	1,345
Western Australia ..	875	1,051	1,344	1,464	1,588
Tasmania .. ..	271	290	368	419	437
<b>Australia .. ..</b>	<b>6,748</b>	<b>7,783</b>	<b>9,712</b>	<b>10,829</b>	<b>(c) 12,099</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Excludes payment for 200 miscellaneous service pensions. This type of service pension was not payable prior to 1963-64.

**§ 4. Medical Treatment for Ex-Servicemen and Dependants of Ex-Servicemen**

1. *General.*—In-patient treatment for eligible patients is provided at the six Repatriation General Hospitals (one in each State) and nine auxiliary hospitals and sanatoria as follows:—*New South Wales*—Lady Davidson Hospital; *Victoria*—McLeod Hospital, Rockingham Red Cross Home, and Anzac Hostel; *Queensland*—Kenmore Hospital, Rosemount Hospital and Anzac Hostel; *South Australia*—Biralee Hospital; and *Western Australia*—The Edward Millen Hospital. The Anzac Hostels specialize in the care and treatment of long-term patients. The Rockingham Red Cross Home is controlled by the Australian Red Cross but is staffed by Repatriation medical officers. It treats Repatriation patients exclusively.

The total number of available beds for patients in open wards or parts of wards in all these institutions at 30th June, 1964, was 4,468, and expenditure amounted to £9,643,000. In addition, expenditure of £11,930,000 was incurred on medical services outside these institutions.

2. Staff.—Details regarding the number of full-time staff in Repatriation General Hospitals and other Repatriation institutions are given in the following table.

**REPATRIATION HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: FULL-TIME STAFF,  
30th JUNE, 1964**

Particulars	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
<b>General Hospitals—</b>							
Medical staff .. ..	77	57	29	18	22	5	208
Nursing staff .. ..	774	480	220	144	192	44	1,854
Other staff .. ..	1,044	714	495	297	421	100	3,071
<i>Total</i> .. ..	<i>1,895</i>	<i>1,251</i>	<i>744</i>	<i>459</i>	<i>635</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>5,133</i>
<b>Other in-patient institutions(a)</b>	207	105	155	34	32	..	533
<b>Out-patient clinics(a) ..</b>	159	89	23	33	25	..	329
<b>Limb and appliance centres(a) ..</b>	63	63	29	17	13	11	196
<b>Grand Total .. ..</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6,191</b>

(a) Total staff.

3. In-patients Treated.—(i) *Repatriation Institutions.* The following table gives details of in-patients treated at Repatriation General Hospitals and other Repatriation institutions in each State. The figures shown refer to cases, e.g., a person who is admitted to hospital twice during a year is counted twice.

**REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: IN-PATIENTS  
TREATED, 1963-64**

Particulars	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
<b>REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS</b>							
In-patients at beginning of year	1,402	814	514	311	443	103	3,587
Admissions and re-admissions during year .. ..	20,086	10,747	8,913	4,437	6,243	1,421	51,847
<i>Total in-patients treated</i>	<i>21,488</i>	<i>11,561</i>	<i>9,427</i>	<i>4,748</i>	<i>6,686</i>	<i>1,524</i>	<i>55,434</i>
Discharges .. ..	19,083	9,941	8,538	4,166	5,909	1,348	48,985
Deaths .. ..	960	798	354	265	331	60	2,768
In-patients at end of year ..	1,445	822	535	317	446	116	3,681
Average daily number resident	1,315	769	520	288	402	98	3,392
<b>OTHER REPATRIATION INSTITUTIONS</b>							
In-patients at beginning of year	183	140	117	33	25	..	498
Admissions and re-admissions during year .. ..	1,424	637	696	105	193	..	3,055
<i>Total in-patients treated..</i>	<i>1,607</i>	<i>777</i>	<i>813</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>218</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>3,553</i>
Average daily number resident	206	131	126	35	27	..	525

(ii) *Other Institutions.* In addition to the Repatriation institutions, eligible patients may be treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals at Repatriation expense. During 1963-64 these hospitals accommodated and treated 12,473 Repatriation in-patients.

Repatriation psychiatric patients requiring custodial care are, by agreement with the State governments, accommodated at the expense of the Repatriation Department in separate wings of psychiatric hospitals administered by the State authorities. At 30th June, 1964, there were 933 Repatriation patients in these hospitals.

4. **Out-patient Treatment.**—Out-patient treatment is provided throughout the Commonwealth at Repatriation hospitals and clinics, and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1963-64 548,721 out-patients were treated at Repatriation institutions and visits to or by local medical officers totalled 2,585,548.

## § 5. General Benefits and Miscellaneous

1. **Other Departmental Activities.**—(i) *General.* The activities of the Department in respect of general benefits for the welfare of ex-servicemen and dependants concern mainly education and training of children under the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme (*see* 3, pp. 1221-2), medical benefits for widows and children of deceased ex-servicemen and for widowed mothers of deceased unmarried ex-servicemen, funeral expenses for certain classes of ex-servicemen and dependants, and allowances to certain classes of dependants.

These and new benefits designed for the re-establishment of servicemen and servicewomen after discharge were extended and made available by legislation passed in June, 1940, to servicemen and servicewomen engaged in the 1939-45 War, and in November, 1950, and May, 1963, to those engaged in the Korea and Malaya operations, and to those serving in such other areas as may be prescribed under the *Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) Act* 1962, respectively. The re-establishment benefits generally administered by the Repatriation Commission are:—payment of re-employment allowance while awaiting employment; provision of tools of trade and equipment where they are necessary to employment; transportation expenses to meet the cost of fares and removal of household belongings where an ex-serviceman takes up training, employment, or a business, or settles on the land; supplements to wages of apprentices whose apprenticeships were interrupted by war service; re-establishment loans to enable ex-servicemen and widows to establish themselves in business, practices or occupations, including (until the Division of War Service Land Settlement began operations early in 1946) agricultural occupations; payment of re-establishment allowance during the early stages of establishment in business; gifts up to £75 for furniture to ex-servicemen who are blind or totally and permanently incapacitated, also to widows with children under 16 years of age; and free passages to Australia for wives, widows and children of ex-servicemen who married abroad (and passages outward from Australia in certain cases of ex-servicemen and dependants).

In 1949 the Department took over the functions of the Re-establishment Division of the former Department of Post-War Reconstruction and became responsible for the co-ordination of all matters relating to training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. This scheme is now concluded, the prescribed time limits for eligibility having expired. Re-establishment of the more seriously disabled, where ordinary training is not sufficient, continues to be a function of the Department, and special means have to be found to overcome each problem.

(ii) *General Repatriation Benefits.* Expenditure in 1963-64 on general repatriation benefits for all wars was £1,647,000, comprising expenditure on employment and vocational training, £55,000 (of which £52,000 was expended by other Commonwealth authorities); business loans and furniture, £1,000; Soldiers' Children Education Scheme, £1,136,000; recreation transport allowance, £269,000; and other benefits £186,000.

2. **Expenditure by the Repatriation Department, 1963-64.**—The net expenditure by the Department for the year ended 30th June, 1964, was £118,482,000 distributed as follows.

					£'000
Pensions, allowances and other benefits	..	..	..	..	91,120
Treatment	..	..	..	..	21,573
Administration	..	..	..	..	4,503
Works, rent and maintenance	..	..	..	..	1,286
					118,482

3. **Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.**—(i) *General.* The Soldiers' Children Education Scheme was established in 1921 and operates with the assistance of voluntary Education Boards in each State. These Boards consist of representatives of government and non-government education authorities and of ex-service and other organizations which have a general interest in the welfare of the children of ex-servicemen. The objects of the scheme are to assist and encourage eligible children in acquiring a standard of education compatible with their aptitude and ability, and to prepare them to enter an agricultural, commercial, professional or industrial calling of their own choice.

(ii) *Eligible Children.* Eligible children are children of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service; or of ex-servicemen who died from causes not due to war service but who were receiving at the date of death a war pension at a special rate for blindness, total and permanent incapacity, or for pulmonary tuberculosis, or for amputation of two or more limbs; or of ex-servicemen who, as the result of war service, are blinded, totally and permanently incapacitated or receiving the special rate pension for pulmonary tuberculosis and are likely to receive such pension for a period of at least three years.

(iii) *General Benefits.* From the commencement of primary education up to twelve years, school requisites and fares are provided. An education allowance is also payable for a child from commencement of secondary education or from the age of 12 years, whichever is the earlier, while the child is undertaking primary or secondary education.

Further assistance beyond, or parallel with, the later years of secondary education is provided where an approved beneficiary continues with a course of specialized education or training necessary for a career.

Specialized education covers a wide range and may include: professional degree or diploma courses at universities and technical colleges; theological training; cadet and pupilage training, i.e., training combined with employment, such as nursing, pharmacy and journalism; industrial, including apprenticeship, training, and other courses of trade and business training approved by an Education Board; and agricultural training at an agricultural college.

At this stage of training, in addition to the education allowance, fees are paid and text books, essential equipment and other minor benefits provided.

All education allowances are subject to an allowed income limit test; i.e., the amount of education allowance payable depends upon the amount of income a child receives over the allowed limit. The parent's income does not affect the child's allowance. Income does not include war or service pensions paid for the child or any similar payment, income the child receives from private means, or income from casual employment during the entire period of a school or university vacation where the student will continue as a full-time student under the scheme after the vacation.

The scale of maximum allowances payable to eligible children at various stages of education is as follows.

**SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: WEEKLY RATES OF ALLOWANCES, JANUARY, 1965**

Type of training	Living at home	Living away from home
At school—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aged 12 and under 14 years .. .. .	0 19 0	3 3 3
Aged 14 and under 16 years .. .. .	1 8 9	3 3 3
Aged 16 and under 18 years .. .. .	3 3 3	4 17 9
Professional (university, etc.) .. .. .	5 0 0	7 12 6
Agricultural .. .. .	..	1 11 9
Industrial (apprenticeship, etc.) .. .. .	1 3 0	2 6 0

(iv) *Expenditure.* The following table shows the costs of education under the scheme for the year ended 30th June, 1964.

## SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: EXPENDITURE, 1963-64

(£ )

Particulars	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. (b)	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
Cost of education of beneficiaries—							
Under 12 years of age ..	3,836	3,594	3,528	1,889	958	647	14,452
12 years of age and over ..	411,919	293,738	189,097	106,762	76,714	36,216	1,114,446
<b>Total Expenditure ..</b>	<b>415,755</b>	<b>297,332</b>	<b>192,625</b>	<b>108,651</b>	<b>77,672</b>	<b>36,863</b>	<b>c1,128,898</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. overseas expenditure of £7,461.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Excludes

(v) *Number Receiving Benefit.* The next table shows the number of children in receipt of benefit at 30th June, 1964.

## SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS AT 30th JUNE, 1964

Type of training	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. (b)	W.A.	Tas.	Abroad	Total
<b>At school—</b>								
Aged 12 and under								
14 years ..	942	628	480	231	198	137	9	2,625
Aged 14 and under								
16 years ..	1,017	769	555	309	236	145	4	3,035
Aged 16 and under								
18 years ..	476	439	269	140	88	49	19	1,480
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7,140</b>
<b>Professional ..</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>944</b>
<b>Agricultural ..</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Industrial ..</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Grand Total ..</b>	<b>2,802</b>	<b>2,119</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>8,197</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

Note.—The above table refers only to children in receipt of an education allowance. Figures shown in previous issues of the Year Book included all industrial trainees under the scheme whether in receipt of an education allowance or not.

4. **Settlement of Returned Service Personnel on the Land.**—Reference to the settlement of returned service personnel on the land will be found in Chapter IV. Land Tenure and Settlement, pages 89-91 of this Year Book.

## § 6. The Services Canteens Trust Fund

1. **General.**—The Services Canteens Trust Fund was established under the *Services Trust Funds Act 1947*. Its funds are derived from the assets and profits of wartime services canteens, mess and regimental funds of disbanded units, and several other sources.

The total amount transferred to the Fund to 31st December, 1964, was £5,526,993. The Act prescribed that, of this, £2,500,000 and such further amounts as the trustees of the Fund might from time to time decide, should be devoted to the provision of education facilities for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen, and that the balance of the Fund should be used to provide relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants in necessitous circumstances.

The Fund is administered by ten honorary trustees appointed by the Governor-General. The trustees have power to determine the persons or groups of persons to benefit from the Fund and the extent of benefits to be granted within the provisions of the Act, and to appoint regional committees to assist with the administration. Members of regional committees are all persons who served in the 1939–45 War or are widows of men who served during the war. They serve in an honorary capacity.

2. **Assistance from the Fund.**—(i) *General.* Persons eligible for assistance from the Fund are those who, between 3rd September, 1939, and 30th June, 1947, served in the Australian Naval, Military or Air Forces, including members of the canteens staff of any ship of the Royal Australian Navy, persons duly accredited to any part of the Defence Forces who served in an official capacity on full-time paid duty, and their dependants.

The trustees have introduced schemes for providing welfare relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are eligible for benefits and for their dependants; benefits for children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from serious and incapacitating afflictions; and education benefits for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen. From its inauguration in 1947 the Fund is to be available for 40 years for welfare relief and for 30 years for educational benefits.

(ii) *Welfare Relief.* The trustees have prescribed a policy for welfare relief which makes assistance available only to those who are in genuine distress from which they cannot extricate themselves by their own efforts.

To 31st December, 1964, £1,356,881 has been granted as welfare relief from the Fund, £875,929 to ex-servicemen and their dependants, and £480,952 to widows and orphans. The amount granted during 1964 was £80,466. A total of 31,465 ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and 14,054 widows and orphans were granted welfare assistance from the Fund to 31st December, 1964.

(iii) *Assistance under Afflicted Children's Scheme.* The Fund assists dependent children suffering from afflictions which permanently disable or seriously retard their progress or prevent the enjoyment of normal health and strength, and who face a prospect of dependence on others for all or part of their lives. The extent to which assistance will be granted in a particular case depends largely on the nature of the child's affliction, the facilities available, the family circumstances, and the funds that can be made available. Up to 31st December, 1964, 2,479 afflicted children had been assisted under the Afflicted Children's Scheme, involving an expenditure of £132,151. The amount granted during 1964 was £7,093. The number of new children assisted in 1964 was 68.

(iv) *Educational Assistance Scheme.* Educational assistance is restricted to children who are 15 years of age and over, 13 years and over where there are exceptional circumstances and 12 years in the case of orphans. The object is to assist eligible children to obtain the highest education within their capacity. Assistance is in the form of awards ranging from £5 to £200 a year depending on the nature of the course undertaken and the family circumstances. These awards are granted chiefly for children at secondary education level, but are also available for other types of education. They are designed to cover, or contribute towards, the cost of essential books, fees in cases where government school courses are not available, fares between the child's home and school, essential equipment and material, uniforms in certain cases, and maintenance for the child while at school. Higher training awards are provided for selected students for post-graduate study in



Australia or overseas in the ancillary services to medicine, welfare and science. One post-graduate scholarship is provided each year for study overseas, valued at £1,000 per annum for up to three years.

The number of children assisted under the educational assistance scheme to 31st December, 1964, was 48,409, and the expenditure on educational awards, post-graduate scholarships and higher training awards to 31st December, 1964, was £2,524,444. The number granted in 1964 was 7,345 at a value of £290,154.

(v) *Total Assistance.* The total assistance granted under the three schemes during 1964 was £377,713 and from the inception of the Fund to 31st December, 1964, totalled £4,013,476.