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## CHAPTER 5

### REPATRIATION

The Repatriation Commission, established under the *Repatriation Act* 1920–1971, 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 Chairman of the Commission is also the Permanent Head of the Repatriation Department, which provides the administrative machinery through which the Commission operates. The central office is in Canberra 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 and allowances to eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants; the provision of medical treatment for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen for injuries and illnesses caused or aggravated by their war service; the provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from injuries and illnesses not caused or aggravated by war service; the provision of medical treatment for widows and dependants of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths are due to war service; and a wide range of other benefits for eligible persons.

Benefits are provided in respect of service, not only in the 1914–1918 and 1939–45 Wars, but also in the South African War 1899–1902, the Korea and Malaya operations, with the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve and the Special Overseas Forces serving in prescribed areas.

For information on war service land settlement *see* Chapter 22, Rural Industry; for statistics relating to war service homes *see* Chapter 9, Housing and Building.

For detailed information about repatriation pensions, allowances, benefits and services, reference should be made to the annual reports of the Repatriation Commission.

#### Total expenditure 1970–71

#### REPATRIATION: TOTAL EXPENDITURE<sup>(a)</sup>, 1966–67 TO 1970–71 (\$'000)

Class	1966–67	1967–68	1968–69	1969–70	1970–71
Pensions, allowances and other benefits . . . . .	194,783	200,446	221,678	228,309	240,539
Medical treatment . . . . .	55,897	59,645	62,743	68,395	74,627
Administration . . . . .	11,543	12,292	13,196	14,972	16,700
Works, rent and maintenance . . . . .	3,120	4,414	4,929	5,423	7,981
<b>Total expenditure . . . . .</b>	<b>265,344</b>	<b>276,797</b>	<b>302,546</b>	<b>317,098</b>	<b>339,847</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes expenditure by Departments other than Repatriation as follows: 1966–67, \$3,040,306; 1967–68, \$4,330,994; 1968–69, \$4,841,789; 1969–70, \$5,298,982; 1970–71, \$5,852,357.

### War pensions

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 31 December 1950 to the Repatriation Act). 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 during the 1939–45 War.

For a brief description of eligibility for war pensions; the conditions for payment of the various rates and allowances; and of operation of the Appeals Tribunals, see pages 91-93 of Year Book 55, Chapter 5, Repatriation.

### Pensions and allowances

War pensions and associated allowances are not subject to a means test, except in the case of dependants other than wives, widows, widowed mothers and children. Pensions and allowances payable and the main weekly rates from 30 September 1971 are as follows.

*Pensions for war-caused incapacity—Special rate* (totally and permanently incapacitated or blinded), \$42.50; an equivalent rate is payable for temporary total incapacity or to an ex-serviceman pensioned for pulmonary tuberculosis who is, as a result, unfit for employment; *Intermediate Rate*. (Capable of part-time work only), \$30.25; ex-servicemen pensioned for pulmonary tuberculosis and able only to work part-time receive the same rate; *General Rate* (capable of full-time employment), 100 per cent basic rate, \$12. *Dependants*—Pensions are also payable to the dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen: Wife, \$4.05; children under 16 years, \$1.38; (Maximum rates).

*Pensions in respect of death—War Widows* (where death was due to war service or, at the date of death, the ex-serviceman was receiving a war pension at the special rate, or its equivalent in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis, or as a double amputee) \$17.25; eligible war widows may also receive a domestic allowance, \$8.00; *children* (under 16 years of age) \$7.00; double orphans (both parents deceased), \$14.00.

*Allowances*—various allowances are provided to supplement war pensions and these vary according to the type and severity of disablement and the special needs of the pensioner. The main allowances and maximum weekly rates payable are: *Special compensation allowance* (payable to certain general rate pensioners assessed as being 75 per cent to 100 per cent incapacitated), from \$4.50 to \$6.00; *Attendants allowance* (for the severely disabled), maximum \$16.00; *Clothing allowances* (where clothing is subject to damage from surgical aids, etc.), from 43 cents to 85 cents; *Domestic allowance* (payable to eligible war widows), \$8.00. Other allowances payable include: *Sustenance allowance*; *Fares, subsistence and attendance allowance*; *Recreation transport allowance*; *Funeral benefits, etc.*

### Summary of war pensions

The following tables provide a summary of war pensions (excluding miscellaneous war pensions) for the 1914-18 War, the 1939-45 War (including war pensions payable under the *Interim Forces Benefits Act 1947-1966* and the *Native Members of the Forces Act 1957-1968*), the Korea and Malaya operations, the Far East Strategic Reserve, and the Special Overseas Service. Statistics relating to miscellaneous war pensions are shown later in this section.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1970-71

		1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Special Overseas Service	Total
New claims granted	No.	615	11,861	674	217	3,070	16,437
Restorations	No.	30	511	14	..	14	569
Claims disallowed(b)	No.	558	3,536	159	44	813	5,110
Pensions cancelled (gross)	No.	477	19,018	481	46	136	20,158
Deaths of pensioners	No.	5,571	6,344	52	4	19	11,990
Number of pensions in force at 30 June 1971		78,010	467,869	11,984	1,961	9,715	569,539
Annual pension liability at 30 June 1971	\$'000	54,049	129,009	1,609	207	1,100	185,974
Amount paid in pensions during the year 1970-71	\$,000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	191,009

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces. (b) Number of ex-servicemen who had their claims for all their disabilities disallowed.

## WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67 TO 1970-71

	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
New claims granted . . .	21,121	19,967	17,570	17,129	16,437
Restorations . . .	526	343	429	317	569
<i>Total additions</i> . . .	<i>21,647</i>	<i>20,310</i>	<i>17,999</i>	<i>17,446</i>	<i>17,006</i>
Pensions cancelled (gross) . . .	25,732	24,539	22,285	21,222	20,158
Deaths of pensioners . . .	10,898	10,950	11,247	11,785	11,990
<i>Total reductions</i> . . .	<i>36,630</i>	<i>35,489</i>	<i>33,532</i>	<i>33,007</i>	<i>32,148</i>

## Classes of war pensions

The following tables provide an analysis of the total number of new claims granted, pensions in force, and class of pension for 1970-71.

## WAR PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1970-71

<i>Class</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea and Malaya operations</i>	<i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ex-servicemen . . .	279	4,100	157	45	1,155	5,736
Wives and widows of ex-servicemen . . .	324	4,394	146	52	843	5,759
Children . . .	10	3,256	365	120	1,056	4,807
Other dependants . . .	2	111	6	..	16	135
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>11,861</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>3,070</b>	<b>16,437</b>

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

## WAR PENSIONS IN FORCE: AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1971

<i>Class</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea and Malaya operations</i>	<i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ex-servicemen . . .	25,188	185,301	3,339	544	3,983	218,355
Wives . . .	29,048	161,362	2,665	436	2,406	195,917
Children . . .	279	85,438	5,568	895	2,941	95,121
War widows . . .	23,286	25,967	150	28	107	49,538
Children of deceased ex-servicemen . . .	30	3,984	144	49	209	4,416
Orphans . . .	11	150	5	..	1	167
Parents . . .	52	5,048	106	8	68	5,282
Others . . .	116	619	7	1	..	743
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>78,010</b>	<b>467,869</b>	<b>11,984</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>9,715</b>	<b>569,539</b>

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

**WAR PENSIONS FOR INCAPACITATED EX-SERVICEMEN IN FORCE BY CLASS OF PENSION  
AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1971**

<i>Class</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea and Malaya operations</i>	<i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Total</i>
Special rate (T.P.I.) or equivalent . . . .	7,597	14,447	102	8	33	22,187
Intermediate rate . . . .	171	1,558	20	1	4	1,754
General rate—from 10 per cent to 100 per cent assessed disability . . . . .	17,420	169,296	3,217	535	3,946	194,414
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>25,188</b>	<b>185,301</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>3,983</b>	<b>218,355</b>

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

**Number of war pensions and annual liability, States, etc.**

The following table shows the number of pensions in force and annual liability at 30 June 1971, according to place of payment.

**WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY  
STATES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1971**

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>Number of war pensions in force at 30 June 1971(a)</i>				<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June(b) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Total</i>	
New South Wales(c) . . . .	78,334	101,813	21,919	202,066	67,106
Victoria . . . . .	58,187	78,018	16,908	153,113	51,051
Queensland . . . . .	33,874	46,923	8,122	88,919	29,918
South Australia(d) . . . .	20,125	27,075	5,193	52,393	15,382
Western Australia . . . . .	18,181	24,037	4,264	46,482	12,958
Tasmania . . . . .	8,646	12,493	2,106	23,245	7,976
Overseas . . . . .	1,008	1,469	844	3,321	1,583
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>218,355</b>	<b>291,828</b>	<b>59,356</b>	<b>569,539</b>	<b>185,974</b>

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces 1939-45 War. (b) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (d) Includes Northern Territory.

**Summary of war pensions, 1966-67 to 1970-71**

The following table shows the number of pensions granted, claims rejected, pensions in force and the annual liability for pensions in each of the years ended 30 June 1967 to 1971.

**WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67 TO 1970-71**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of war pensions in force at 30 June(a)—</i>						<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June(c) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Pensions granted</i>	<i>Claims disallowed (b)</i>	<i>Incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1966-67 . . . . .	21,121	4,819	222,912	350,365	57,897	631,174	163,388
1967-68 . . . . .	19,967	4,578	222,479	334,823	58,674	615,976	164,848
1968-69 . . . . .	17,570	4,950	221,343	319,899	59,071	600,313	171,818
1969-70 . . . . .	17,129	5,333	219,841	305,403	59,432	584,676	178,730
1970-71 . . . . .	16,437	5,110	218,355	291,828	59,356	569,539	185,974

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces 1939-45 War. (b) The number of claimants who had the claims for all their disabilities disallowed. (c) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows.

The following table shows, for the years 1966-67 to 1970-71, the amounts paid in pensions and the places where they were paid.

**WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID(a), STATES, ETC., 1966-67 TO 1970-71**  
(\\$'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>1966-67</i>	<i>1967-68</i>	<i>1968-69(b)</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>
New South Wales(c)	55,884	57,424	64,981	65,469	68,992
Victoria	46,882	47,146	51,566	51,214	52,546
Queensland	24,992	25 525	28,543	29,055	30,813
South Australia(d)	13,613	13,807	15,326	15,151	15,722
Western Australia	11,869	11,914	13,038	12,786	13,114
Tasmania	6,650	6,786	7,617	7,831	8,226
Overseas	1,509	1,519	1,414	1,580	1,595
<b>Total</b>	<b>161,399</b>	<b>164,121</b>	<b>182,485</b>	<b>183,086</b>	<b>191,008</b>

(a) Includes domestic allowances paid to widows. (b) Includes five 12-weekly payments. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (d) Includes Northern Territory.

**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 1940-1971* and Cabinet decisions granting eligibility to persons who were attached to the armed forces during war-time.

The following table shows the number and class of pensions and the annual liability at 30 June 1971, and the table thereafter shows the amounts paid during the years 1966-67 to 1970-71 and the place of payment.

**MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1971**

<i>Class</i>	<i>Number of pensions in force at 30 June 1971</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Members(a)</i>	<i>Dependants of members</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased members</i>		
Act of grace	119	137	53	309	140
Seamen's war pension	81	94	68	243	94
New Guinea civilians	2	..	67	69	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>317</b>

(a) 'Member' in this context is a person in respect of whose wartime experience a pension is paid.

**MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC.**  
**1966-67 TO 1970-71**  
(\\$'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>1966-67</i>	<i>1967-68</i>	<i>1968-69(a)</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>
New South Wales(b)	148	159	174	176	179
Victoria	71	71	87	84	90
Queensland	44	44	46	47	50
South Australia(c)	29	29	30	31	32
Western Australia	20	20	23	25	26
Tasmania	4	4	4	4	4
Overseas	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>382</b>

(a) Includes five 12-weekly payments. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

### Service pensions

The *Repatriation Act* 1920–1971 provides for a service pension to be paid, subject to a means test on income and property, to the following persons:

- ex-servicemen who served in a theatre of war (or in a designated *Operational* or *Special Overseas Service* area) and have attained the age of sixty years or are permanently unemployable;
  - ex-servicemen who suffer from pulmonary tuberculosis, irrespective of the area of their service; and
  - ex-servicewomen who suffer from tuberculosis, or who served in a theatre of war, or served abroad or embarked for service abroad and have attained the age of fifty-five years, or are permanently unemployable.
- veterans of the South African War 1899–1902 who were members of a naval or military force or contingent raised in Australia for active service in that war.

#### Rates of pension

Maximum service pension rates and allowances are the same as those paid to Age and Invalid pensioners under the Social Services Act. The means test provisions relating to payments are similar.

For information on conditions relating to the various rates and allowances and the operation of the means test, see Chapter 13, Welfare Services.

From 30 September 1971, the maximum weekly rates are as follows.

*Standard (Single) Rate*, \$17.25, *Standard (Married) Rate* (wife not eligible for Age or Invalid pension) Husband \$17.25; wife if otherwise eligible, \$8, *Married Rate* (wife receiving Age or Invalid pension from Department of Social Services), \$15.25; *Guardian's Allowance*, \$4 (\$6 if caring for a child under 6 years or an invalid child requiring full time care); *Supplementary assistance*, \$2; *Additional pension for eligible children*, \$4.50 for each child; In addition \$0.25 is payable in respect of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th children.

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 service. 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.

#### SERVICE PENSIONS, SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1970-71

	<i>South African War</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea-Malaya operations</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Miscellaneous (b)</i>	<i>Total</i>
New claims granted . . . . .	6	1,380	8,859	65	2	9	10,321
Restorations . . . . .	..	177	500	3	..	..	680
Cancellations (gross) . . . . .	..	843	2,521	14	..	..	3,378
Deaths . . . . .	23	3,343	1,901	7	..	2	5,276
Pensions in force at 30 June 1971	132	34,888	41,517	225	3	43	76,808
Annual liability at 30 June 1971							
\$'000	75	20,859	22,289	90	2	20	43,334
Amount paid in pensions during 1970-71 . . . . . \$'000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	43,732

(a) Includes native members of the forces. (b) Act of grace pensions.

#### SERVICE PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67 TO 1970-71

	<i>1966-67</i>	<i>1967-68</i>	<i>1968-69</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>
New claims granted . . . . .	8,578	8,880	7,479	13,259	10,321
Restorations . . . . .	1,056	1,052	780	1,642	680
<i>Total additions</i> . . . . .	<i>9,634</i>	<i>9,932</i>	<i>8,259</i>	<i>(a)14,901</i>	<i>11,001</i>
Cancellations (gross) . . . . .	4,197	4,017	5,009	2,858	3,378
Deaths . . . . .	4,362	4,373	4,601	4,781	5,276
<i>Total reductions</i> . . . . .	<i>8,559</i>	<i>8,390</i>	<i>9,610</i>	<i>7,639</i>	<i>8,654</i>

(a) Part of the increase in 1969-70 is due to variation in the Means Test in September 1969. See Chapter 13—Welfare Services.

## Class of service pensions

The following tables give an analysis of the total number of new claims granted and pensions in force for 1970-71.

## SERVICE PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1970-71

<i>Class</i>	<i>South African War</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea-Malaya operations</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ex-servicemen . . .	6	975	6,120	32	2	9	7,144
Wives and widows of ex-servicemen . . .	..	397	2,082	13	..	..	2,492
Children . . .	..	8	657	20	..	..	685
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>8,859</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10,321</b>

(a) Includes native members of the forces.

## SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, STATES, 30 JUNE 1971

<i>State</i>	<i>South African War</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea-Malaya operations</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total</i>
New South Wales(b)	26	11,078	12,936	82	..	6	24,128
Victoria . . .	21	9,676	9,092	41	1	16	18,847
Queensland . . .	27	5,649	9,170	53	1	8	14,908
South Australia(c) . .	27	4,018	3,886	23	..	7	7,961
Western Australia . .	27	3,198	4,517	20	1	4	7,767
Tasmania . . .	4	1,269	1,916	6	..	2	3,197
<b>Australia . . .</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>34,888</b>	<b>41,517</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>76,808</b>

(a) Includes native members of the forces. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

## Number, by class, of service pensions and amount paid

The following tables show the number of each class of service pension in force, the annual liability and the amounts paid for the years 1966-67 to 1970-71.

## SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER OF EACH CLASS OF PENSION AND ANNUAL LIABILITY AUSTRALIA, 1966-67 TO 1970-71

Number of service pensions at 30 June payable to—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Ex-servicemen who are—</i>				<i>Dependants(a) of ex-servicemen where the ex-serviceman is—</i>		<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Aged ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Permanently unemployable</i>	<i>Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis</i>	<i>An aged ex-serviceman</i>	<i>Permanently unemployable</i>	<i>Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis</i>			
1966-67 . .	34,814	14,512	1,073	433	14,988	1,152	21	66,993	31,239
1967-68 . .	35,254	14,874	1,049	631	15,606	1,091	22	68,527	31,436
1968-69 . .	35,404	14,797	1,060	537	14,373	975	22	67,168	33,273
1969-70 . .	37,792	17,362	1,154	821	16,237	1,023	31	74,420	40,929
1970-71 . .	38,666	18,122	1,201	1,017	16,729	1,030	43	76,808	43,334

(a) Includes dependants of deceased service pensioners.



**SERVICE PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC.**  
**1966-67 TO 1970-71**  
 (\$'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>1966-67</i>	<i>1967-68</i>	<i>1968-69</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>
New South Wales(a)	9,998	10,844	11,358	12,806	13,963
Victoria	6,720	7,420	8,070	9,767	10,696
Queensland	4,715	5,292	5,799	7,184	8,042
South Australia(b)	3,134	3,416	3,710	4,253	4,651
Western Australia	3,612	3,777	4,071	4,491	4,769
Tasmania	935	1,014	1,093	1,404	1,604
Overseas	11	8	7	8	7
<b>Australia</b>	<b>29,126</b>	<b>31,771</b>	<b>34,108</b>	<b>39,912</b>	<b>43,732</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

### Medical treatment for ex-servicemen and dependants of ex-servicemen

Medical treatment is provided for all disabilities which have been accepted as due to war service. In addition, and subject to certain conditions, treatment is provided for disabilities not due to war service for: ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen receiving war pensions at or exceeding the maximum general (100 per cent) rate; ex-servicemen who have contracted pulmonary tuberculosis; nurses who served in the 1914-18 war; widows and certain dependants of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service and of deceased T.P.I. pensioners; and certain service pensioners, including service pensioners of the South African War 1899-1902. Ex-servicemen who have contracted pulmonary tuberculosis may receive treatment for that condition.

In-patient treatment for eligible patients is provided at the six Repatriation General Hospitals (one in each State) and seven auxiliary hospitals and sanatoriums as follows: *New South Wales*—Lady Davidson Hospital; *Victoria*—Macleod Hospital and Anzac Hostel; *Queensland*—Kenmore Hospital and Rosemount Hospital; *South Australia*—Birralee Hospital; and *Western Australia*—The Edward Millen Hospital. The Anzac Hostel specialises in the care and treatment of long-term patients.

The total number of available beds for patients in wards or parts of wards, open for use, in all these institutions at 30 June 1971 was 3,737, and expenditure during 1970-71 amounted to \$35,019,443. In addition, expenditure of \$39,607,306 was incurred during 1970-71 on medical services outside these institutions.

#### Repatriation hospitals and institutions

Details 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**  
**STATES, 30 JUNE 1971**

<i>Type of institution</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
<b>General hospitals—</b>							
Medical staff	118	104	54	28	31	9	344
Nursing staff	686	468	365	178	187	58	1,942
Other staff	1,098	758	477	323	401	116	3,173
<i>Total, general hospitals</i>	<i>1,902</i>	<i>1,330</i>	<i>896</i>	<i>529</i>	<i>619</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>5,459</i>
<b>Other in-patient institutions(a)</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>Out-patient clinics(a)</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>328</b>
<b>Limb and appliance centres(a)</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>6,594</b>

(a) Total staff.

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, STATES, 1970-71**

	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
<b>REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS</b>							
In-patients at beginning of year . . . . .	939	557	512	293	328	81	2,710
Admissions and re-admissions during year . . . . .	17,200	10,195	8,794	5,626	5,548	1,532	48,895
<i>Total in-patients treated</i> . . . . .	<i>18,139</i>	<i>10,752</i>	<i>9,306</i>	<i>5,919</i>	<i>5,876</i>	<i>1,613</i>	<i>51,605</i>
Discharges . . . . .	16,193	9,347	8,510	5,314	5,243	1,445	46,052
Deaths . . . . .	971	819	401	347	342	80	2,960
In-patients at end of year . . . . .	975	586	395	258	291	88	2,593
Average daily beds occupied . . . . .	905	542	428	259	293	83	2,510
<b>OTHER REPATRIATION INSTITUTIONS</b>							
In-patients at beginning of year . . . . .	189	118	132	27	45	..	511
Admissions and re-admissions during year . . . . .	2,074	802	1,107	111	331	..	4,425
<i>Total in-patients treated</i> . . . . .	<i>2,263</i>	<i>920</i>	<i>1,239</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>376</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>4,936</i>
Discharges . . . . .	1,998	761	1,069	100	331	..	4,259
Deaths . . . . .	77	42	41	2	3	..	165
In-patients at end of year . . . . .	188	117	129	36	42	..	512
Average daily beds occupied . . . . .	203	111	131	25	40	..	510

In addition to the Repatriation institutions, eligible patients are treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals and nursing homes at Repatriation expense. During 1970-71, 18,010 Repatriation in-patients were accommodated and treated in hospitals and 1,116 in nursing homes.

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. Excluding 127 on trial leave, there were 724 Repatriation patients in these hospitals at 30 June 1971.

Out-patient treatment is provided throughout the Commonwealth at Repatriation hospitals and clinics and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1970-71, 627,398 out-patients were treated at Repatriation institutions, and visits to or by local medical officers totalled 2,752,919. The number of Repatriation local medical officers in the Commonwealth at 30 June 1971 was 6,206.

#### **Artificial limb and appliance services**

In each State the Repatriation Department maintains a limb and appliance centre, catering for patients requiring artificial limbs, surgical aids and appliances. The centres fit eligible Repatriation patients and those from other Commonwealth departments and instrumentalities, and, when possible, patients from State Government and philanthropic organisations, and private persons who cannot be fitted satisfactorily elsewhere.

Details of production at all centres during 1970-71 are as follows: arms, 206; legs, 1,724; surgical footwear, 8,534; adapted footwear, 1,716; other surgical appliances, 2,478; and repairs, 27,597.

### **General Repatriation benefits and miscellaneous**

#### **Other Repatriation Department activities**

In addition to the payment of pensions and the provision of medical treatment, the Department also provides various benefits and allowances designed to meet the needs of special classes of ex-servicemen and their dependants.

These include educational and vocational training schemes, namely the *Soldiers' Children Education Scheme* (full details of which appear later in this section), the *Disabled Members' Training Scheme*, the *War Widows' Training Scheme* and the *National Service Vocational Training Scheme*.

In addition, gift cars and an annual allowance for their upkeep are provided for ex-servicemen who, as a result of war service, have suffered the amputation of both legs above the knees or amputation of one leg above the knee plus any two other amputations (above the ankle or at or above the wrist) or complete paraplegia resulting in the total loss of the use of both legs. A grant of up to \$50 may be made towards the funeral expenses of eligible ex-servicemen and certain of their dependants. Payment of up to \$10 may be made to provide such necessities as meals, sleeping accommodation etc., for ex-servicemen in need of immediate relief. Also certain concessions in telephone rental charges are provided for some classes of ex-servicemen and their dependants, including war blinded ex-servicemen, war widows and certain service and special rate war pensioners. Ex-servicemen who have been blinded as a result of war service may be issued with talking book machines. The Australian Red Cross Society supplies 'book' records or cassettes for these machines, free of charge, thus enabling the blinded to enjoy a wide range of literature.

Expenditure in 1970-71 on general Repatriation benefits for all wars was \$5,417,000, comprising *Soldiers' Children Education Scheme*, \$3,407,000; recreation transport allowance, \$739,000; and other benefits \$1,271,000.

Trust (and other) funds administered by the Repatriation Department held \$11,770,000 in securities (face value) and \$800,000 in cash, a total of \$12,570,000 as at 30 June 1971.

Reciprocal arrangements with the United Kingdom, New Zealand and other countries provide for the payment of pensions, etc., to eligible Australian ex-servicemen living overseas and to eligible ex-servicemen from overseas who are living in Australia.

#### **Soldiers' Children Education Scheme**

The *Soldiers' Children Education Scheme* was established in 1921 and operates with the assistance of the voluntary Education Boards in each State. These Boards consist of representatives of government and non-government education authorities and of ex-service and other organisations 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. 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, pulmonary tuberculosis, or amputation of two or more limbs; or of ex-servicemen who, as a 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. 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 twelve 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 specialised education or training necessary for a career. At this stage of training, in addition to the education allowance, fees are paid and text books, essential equipment and other minor benefits are provided.

All education allowances are subject to an allowed income limit test, i.e. the amount of education allowance payable depends on the amount of income a child receives over the allowed limit. 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, FROM 1 JANUARY 1972 (\$)**

<i>Type of training</i>	<i>Living at home</i>	<i>Living away from home</i>
At school—		
Aged 12 and under 14 years . . .	2.18	7.28
Aged 14 „ „ 16 years . . .	3.30	7.28
Aged 16 „ „ 18 years . . .	7.28	11.25
Professional (university, etc.) . . .	13.46	21.16
Agricultural . . . . .	..	3.65
Industrial (apprenticeship, etc.) . . .	2.65	5.30

The following tables show the costs of education under the scheme for the year ended 30 June 1971 and the number of children in receipt of benefit at 30 June 1971.

**SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: EXPENDITURE, 1970-71**  
(\$'000)

	<i>N.S.W.(a)</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.(b)</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
Cost of education of beneficiaries—							
Under 12 years of age . . . . .	7	7	9	1	1	2	27
12 years of age and over . . . . .	1,255	872	617	301	172	150	3,367
<b>Total expenditure . . . . .</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>(c)3,394</b>

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Excludes overseas expenditure of \$13,000.

**SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS(a)**  
**AT 30 JUNE 1971**

<i>Type of training</i>	<i>N.S.W. (b)</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A. (c)</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Over- seas</i>	<i>Total</i>
At school—								
Aged under 14 years(d) . . . . .	666	454	403	166	113	110	10	1,922
Aged 14 and under 16 years . . . . .	828	606	444	235	131	152	14	2,410
Aged 16 and under 18 years . . . . .	898	522	235	149	79	80	18	1,981
<b>Total at school . . . . .</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>6,313</b>
Professional . . . . .	480	389	289	157	95	52	11	1,473
Agricultural . . . . .	5	6	15	3	3	..	..	32
Industrial . . . . .	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
<b>Grand total . . . . .</b>	<b>2,877</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>7,821</b>

(a) Refers only to children in receipt of an education allowance. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) From 12 years of age or the commencement of secondary education, whichever is the earlier.

**Settlement of returned service personnel on the land**

Reference to the settlement of returned service personnel on the land will be found in the chapter Rural Industry.

**Re-establishment benefits for national servicemen**

Subject to prescribed conditions, special re-establishment benefits are provided for national servicemen under the *Defence (Re-establishment) Act 1965-1968*. They apply to all national servicemen whether or not they have served on 'special service' and ensure that servicemen will not be at a disadvantage on their return to civil life. The scheme includes appropriate full or part-time training where it is necessary or desirable for effective re-settlement. The assistance includes payment of tuition fees, other associated fees and fares, and an allowance towards the provision of books and equipment as appropriate. A training allowance is also provided for trainees undertaking full-time studies.

Re-establishment loans may be granted, subject to certain conditions, to those national servicemen in need of financial assistance for their re-establishment in civil life and who, prior to call-up, were engaged on their own account in professional practice, business, or agricultural occupations, or who, because of their call-up, were prevented from engaging in these occupations or, in any other case where it is considered desirable in the circumstances to grant a loan.

The maximum amounts of the loans are business and professional \$3,000, agricultural \$6,000.

### The Services Canteens Trust Fund

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 31 December 1971 was \$11,056,551. The Act prescribed that, of this, \$5 million 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 the 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. The trustees and members of regional committees serve in an honorary capacity.

#### Assistance from the Fund

Persons eligible for assistance from the Fund are those who, between 3 September 1939 and 30 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 forty years for both welfare relief and educational benefits.

The total assistance granted under these three schemes from the inception of the Fund to 31 December 1971 was \$12,258,076 (\$446,014 during 1971) distributed as follows: *Welfare relief*, \$3,751,346 (\$148,000); *Assistance for afflicted children*, \$330,520 (\$7,430); and *Educational assistance*, \$8,176,210 (\$290,584).

For detailed information on the operation of the Fund reference should be made to the annual reports of the Services Canteens Trust Fund.