

**SOLDIERS'
PENSIONS**

1918

For any information not contained in this book about disablement or alternative pensions or treatment or training, Soldiers and the widows and dependants of soldiers should go to the War Pensions Committee of their district. The address can be had at the Post Office.

PENSIONS FOR SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

ROYAL WARRANT OF 1918.*

TEMPORARY ALLOWANCE ON DISCHARGE.

AS soon as a soldier is discharged as medically unfit for service he gets an allowance of 27/6 a week until a decision has been reached as to his pension. For the first two weeks his children's separation allowances continue, and after that, until the decision is reached, he gets children's allowances at the highest rates. If, whilst waiting for this decision, he needs hospital treatment he may receive it free of charge.

SOLDIERS' PENSIONS.

Pensions are given to soldiers who are disabled by wounds or injuries received on military duty during this War or by disease caused or made worse by military service. The pension is fixed according to the degree of disablement, that is, the amount of injury which the man has sustained. The highest degree of disablement means that a man's injuries are so great that he cannot be *expected* to earn

* This Warrant has effect from the 1st May, 1918, and is in place of the Warrant of March 29th, 1917.

(17262)

(25178) Wt. 4826—1053. 500m. 7/18. Av. P. (300).

(28365) Wt. 17422—1329. Rpt. 250m. 7/18. Av. P. (380).

anything. His pension is then AT LEAST 27/6 A WEEK. He gets this pension if, for instance, he has lost two limbs. If he can still earn while drawing this 27/6 a week so much the better for him. That will not alter his pension.

**Specific
Injuries.**

At the end of this little book there is a list of various injuries and the pensions to be awarded in respect of them to Warrant and Non-Com. Officers and men. For example, a man who has lost the sight of one eye, or a leg below the knee, or the left arm below the elbow, is reckoned as half disabled. If a private he gets a pension of 13/9 weekly. If he has lost two fingers of either hand he is counted as one-fifth disabled and gets 5/6. If he is disabled less than that, he will have a gratuity or temporary allowance instead of a pension.

Injuries not included in the printed list, and diseases, will be estimated by a Board.

A Board will also decide whether disease was caused or made worse by military service; also whether it was by his own fault that a man was disabled.

**Appeal from
Board's
decision.**

If the soldier is dissatisfied with the Board's decision that his disablement was not caused or made worse by military service he may appeal to the Pensions Appeal Tribunal, and the best way to do this is through his War Pensions Committee.

**Service
Pensions.**

If a private is entitled to a service pension, he will get that in addition to his disablement pension. Warrant and Non-Com. Officers entitled to a service pension will get

- (a) *Either* the same disablement pension as a private and their service pension in addition,
- (b) *Or*, if better for them, a pension corresponding with their rank at the rate shown in the list of pensions at the end of this book.

Thus a Warrant Officer, Class I., who has lost the sight of an eye will get either 13/9 and his service pension in addition or 21/3, whichever is the greater.

A man who held paid acting rank at the time he was Acting disabled will be pensioned according to the scale for Rank. that rank.

At the start, unless the disablement is clearly per- Pension manent as in the case of an amputated limb, the pension temporary will be temporary, and it will go on being renewed from at first. time to time until made permanent or until the disablement ceases. If it runs no longer than a year a gratuity of £5 is added to it.

If a man is disabled in the highest degree he will get Allowances 6/8 a week for the first child if under 16, 5/- for the for second, and 4/2 for every other child. Children.

If he is disabled in a less degree, the children's allowances will be less in proportion as his pension is less. A private with a pension of 13/9 will get 3/4 for the first child, 2/6 for the second and 2/1 for every other child.

The allowances for children of Warrant and Non-Com. Officers are the same as for those of privates.

The allowance for a child may be continued after it is 16 if the child is receiving only nominal wages or is being educated, or if it is physically or mentally unable to earn a living.

Alternative Pensions.

A soldier may apply to have either his temporary or his permanent pension fixed according to his earnings *before the war*.

If he can show that the total of (1) his disablement pension (2) children's allowances (if any) and (3) what he can still earn taken together amount to less than what he earned *before the war*, he may be granted a pension, called an alternative pension, which is calculated as follows:—

(a) Where the pre-war earnings were not more than 50/- a week:

A man now capable of earning	... 20/- a week and
before the war earning	... 45/- a week
would have up to	... 45/-,
less what he is capable of earning	... <u>20/-,</u>
which gives as his alternative pension	25/- a week.

(b) Where the pre-war earnings were more than 50/- a week:

A man now capable of earning	... 20/- a week and
before the war earning	... 80/- a week
would have up to	... 50/-
and half the excess of 80/- over 50/-,	<u>15/-,</u>
which makes	... 65/-,
less what he is capable of earning	... 20/-,
leaving as alternative pension	... 45/- a week.

Any earnings over 100/- a week are not taken into consideration, so that the highest alternative pension obtainable would be 75/- a week.

If a man has lost both arms or both legs or the sight of both eyes no account will be taken of any amount that he may be able to earn.

If a man was an apprentice before the war, or studying for a profession or employment, allowance will be made in fixing his alternative pension for what he might have earned if he had continued his apprenticeship or education.

If a man is so completely disabled that he always requires someone to look after him, he is given an allowance up to 20/- a week to pay for this. **Treatment.**

If the doctors think a man should have a course of medical treatment, and the man refuses, half of his pension and allowances (if any) may be stopped.

While he is receiving any medical treatment that may be prescribed for him which requires his going into hospital, a discharged soldier will have his pension brought up to the highest degree of disablement rate corresponding to his rank, that is, to 27/6 if he had been a private, less 7/- a week which will be deducted for his maintenance, and allowances will be given to his family.

A man's permanent pension is not fixed until the doctors consider that his injuries are as much cured as they are ever likely to be, but **Permanent Pension not Reduced by Earnings.**

When once a permanent pension has been granted it will never be reduced because a man becomes able to earn more.

Training.

Men if they cannot go on with their former work on account of their injuries, may get free training for some new occupation. During this training they will be given the highest degree of disablement pension corresponding to their rank, together with children's allowances at the highest rates, and, if they have to live away from home, their wives or dependants will also get allowances. Where a man lives in a hostel or similar institution his board and lodging will not cost him more than 17/6 a week.

At the end of the training a man will receive a bonus at the rate of 5/- a week for the time the training lasted, and he may also be allowed a sum not exceeding £10 for the purchase of tools, if they have to be provided by the man in the trade in which he has been trained.

**Allowance
where
Disablement
not Result
of Service.**

A soldier who is discharged as medically unfit, for causes *in no way due to military service*, will be granted a temporary allowance for himself and his children. This allowance will be dependent upon how much he is disabled and how long he has served. He may also during the war and for one year afterwards receive free treatment in a hospital if certified to need such treatment for the disability for which he was discharged, and whilst he is in hospital allowances will be given to his family.

**Former
Regulations.**

If any soldier who was serving before the date of the new regulations finds it better for him, he can have his pension reckoned according to the old regulations.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

If a man has been killed in action during the war or has within seven years died from wounds or from injuries while on duty, or from disease contracted on active service or made worse by service, and through no fault of his own, his widow may get a pension equal to half the soldier's pension for the highest degree of disablement, according to his rank. These are the widows' rates of pension :—

	Weekly.
Widow of Warrant Officer, Class I.	21/3
Widow of W.O., Class II. or N.C.O., Class I.	18/9
Widow of N.C.O., Class II.	17/6
Widow of N.C.O., Class III.	16/3
Widow of N.C.O., Class IV.	15/-
Widow of Private, &c., Class V.	13/9

A widow will get allowances for the soldier's children maintained by her at the rates paid for children of a man totally disabled, i.e., 6/8 for the first child under 16, 5/- for the second and 4/2 for each other child.

In no case will the pension of a widow be reduced because she is herself earning.

A widow who can show that she was married to the soldier before the commencement of the war or before the date of his enlistment, if that was later, and that her widow's pension, together with children's allowances, amount to less than two-thirds the alternative pension which would have been granted to the

**Widow's
Alternative
Pension.**

soldier, supposing he had lived but could not earn anything, may be granted two-thirds of that pension instead of her widow's pension.

If, for instance, her husband had been earning £4 a week before the war, he would have had a pension of 50/- plus 15/-, or £3 5s. a week if he had been unable to earn anything, and his widow will get two-thirds of that amount, viz., 43/4. The most she can get under this regulation is 50/- when her husband had earned £5 a week or more.

Additional Allowances to Widows.

A widow will also get

- (1) A grant of £5, with £1 for each child, on the death of her husband.
- (2) 1/3 a week extra on reaching 45 years.*
- (3) A grant not exceeding 12/6 a week for not more than 13 weeks while she is undergoing a course of instruction to fit her for work. Training fees may also be paid for her.

Marriage.

The pension of a widow stops on re-marriage, but a gratuity equal to one year's "widow's" pension will then be given. Allowances to children kept by her continue.

Widows' Pensions in certain cases.

The widow of a soldier whose death was not caused in any way by his military duty but was not due to his own fault, may get 15/- a week during the war and for 12 months after; she will also receive £5 for herself and £1 for each child on the death of her husband.

* But only in the case of a "widow's" pension and not when drawing an alternative pension.

If after discharge a soldier receiving disablement or alternative pension of not less than 10/- a week dies, and his death has not been caused by his military duty, his widow may get half his pension, provided she was living with him when he died; but such a pension must not be more than the pension which the widow would have got under the widows' rates of pension above mentioned.

A widow will not be entitled to any pension if she married the soldier after the end of the war, or after his discharge, or after he received the injury or contracted the disease for which he was discharged; and a wife who was separated from her husband will not be regarded on her husband's death as a "widow" for purposes of pension.

PENSIONS TO MOTHERLESS CHILDREN.

The motherless child of a soldier who has died in consequence of military duty may be allowed 10/- a week. If two or more such children are maintained by one person, the allowance will be not exceeding 10/- for the first child and 9/2 for others.

The same allowance is payable for children removed from the control of their mother.

6/8 may be allowed for an illegitimate child where an affiliation order was in force, or where the fatherhood can be proved.

PARENTS' PENSIONS.

Dependency Pensions.

The parent (or parents) of a soldier who has died in consequence of military duty may get a pension equal to the weekly value of the help they may have had from the soldier before the war (or enlistment), up to 15/- a week, but the pension will not be less than 3/6 a week although the help may have been less. In reckoning the help given the cost of the soldier's keep when he lived at home is deducted.

Pensions may be granted in respect of two or more sons who helped the parents before the war (or enlistment), but the total coming to each parent must not exceed 15/- a week. Earnings do not affect these dependency pensions.

Special Pensions

Parents whose son has died in consequence of his military duty and who are too old or infirm to support themselves and are in need and have no other children who can support them, may be granted a pension not exceeding 15/- a week. This pension may be given even though they had had no help from their son.

Special Gratuity.

If the soldier died from causes that had nothing to do with the war, but were not his own fault, his parents may be given a gratuity if they were dependent upon him, or if they are too old or infirm to support themselves and are in need.

DEPENDANTS' PENSIONS.

Separated Wives.

The separated wife of a soldier who has died in consequence of military duty may get the amount contributed to her support, or due to her under a separation order, up to 13/9 a week, together with the usual allowances for any children kept by her.

If the soldier's contribution or the separation order was less than $3/6$ the pension will be raised to that amount.

If a woman has lived as his wife with a soldier who has died in consequence of military duty, and has been dependent upon him, and has drawn separation allowance, or was entitled to it, she may receive 10/- a week for the period of the war and a year afterwards; if she has children of the soldier in her charge she gets the usual allowances for them, and her 10/- a week continues until twelve months after the last child has gone or has ceased to have pension. In either case if she is too old or infirm to support herself the 10/- a week may be continued.

Unmarried
Wives.

Any other person, incapable of self support and in need, who was wholly or partly dependent on the soldier immediately before the war (or enlistment) and up to the soldier's death, and who got separation allowance or was qualified to get it, may receive a pension not exceeding the amount of the benefit received from him before the war (or enlistment), up to $13/9$ a week, but here, as in other cases, the soldier must have died in consequence of military service.

Other
Dependants.

Pensions to any female dependant cease on marriage or re-marriage; but a gratuity of half a year's pension may be granted, and children's allowances continue.

Marriage.

PENSIONS THAT MAY BE GRANTED FOR SPECIFIC INJURIES.

Degree of Disablement.	Specific Injury.	Proportion corresponding to Degree of Disablement.	Disablement Pensions.													
			If not entitled to a Service Pension.						Warrant or N.C. Officers entitled to Service Pensions.		Private, &c. (Class V.) irrespec- tive of Service Pension to which entitled.					
			Warrant Officer, Class I.	Warrant Officer, Class II., or N.C. Officer, Class I.	N.C. Officer, Class II.	N.C. Officer, Class III.	N.C. Officer, Class IV.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.			
1	Loss of two or more limbs. Loss of an arm and an eye. Loss of a leg and an eye. Loss of both hands or of all fingers and thumbs. Loss of both feet. Loss of a hand and a foot. Total loss of sight. Total paralysis. Lunacy. Wounds, injuries or disease result- ing in disabled man being per- manently bedridden. Wounds of or injuries to internal, thoracic or abdominal organs, involving total permanent dis- abling effects. Wounds of or injuries to head or brain involving total permanent disabling effects, or Jacksonian epilepsy. Very severe facial disfigurement. Advanced cases of incurable disease	100	42	6	37	6	35	0	32	6	30	0	27	6	27	6

2	Amputation of right arm at shoulder joint.	90	38	3	33	9	31	6	29	3	27	0	24	9	24	9
3	Amputation of leg at hip or left arm at shoulder joint. Severe facial disfigurement. Total loss of speech.	80	34	0	30	0	28	0	26	0	24	0	22	0	22	0
4	Short thigh amputation of leg, or of right arm above or through elbow.	70	29	9	26	3	24	6	22	9	21	0	19	3	19	3
5	Total deafness. Amputation of leg above knee (other than 4), and through knee or of left arm above or through elbow, or of right arm below elbow.	60	25	6	22	6	21	0	19	6	18	0	16	6	16	6
6	Amputation of leg below knee (including Symes' and Chopart's amputation), or of left arm below elbow.	50	21	3	18	9	17	6	16	3	15	0	13	9	13	9
7	Loss of vision of one eye. Loss of thumb or of four fingers of right hand.	40	17	0	15	0	14	0	13	0	12	0	11	0	11	0
8	Loss of thumb or of four fingers of left hand, or of three fingers of right hand.	30	12	9	11	3	10	6	9	9	9	0	8	3	8	3
9	Loss of two fingers of either hand.	20	8	6	7	6	7	0	6	6	6	0	5	6	5	6

NOTE.—In the case of left-handed men, certified to be such, the compensation in respect of the left arm, hand, &c., will be the same as for a right arm, &c.