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CANADIAN PENSION LAWS.

Important changes in the pension laws of Canada are about to be put in force. The new regulations, it is said, have passed all intermediate stages and during the next few weeks will be put into force through orders-in-council.

Partial dependency claims will be dealt with for the first time. Under present regulations it is necessary for parents to prove that a son was their main or only support. Under new regulations if it is established that a son killed in war service was of material assistance to parents, they will draw as a pension the amount he contributed. Future dependency claims will also be taken care of, under the new regulations. A stated case which came to the notice of the Pension Commissioners best illustrates the object of the new ruling. Father and son started a ranch in British Columbia. The project was not sufficiently successful and father and son had an agreement between them. A mortgage of \$2,000 was placed on the property and the boy was sent to college to study law with the proceeds. The agreement was that he was to reimburse his father from the proceeds of his law practice. On graduation war was declared and the boy enlisted with his father's consent. He was killed in action. At the time of his death he was not contributing to his father's support, but he would have done so in the natural course of events. Under the new regulations the father could file a claim for pension under the "future dependency" clause.

Under pension laws now in force separation pay and assigned pay stops when the soldier is killed. Considerable delay is caused in investigating the pension claim, and in the meantime dependents are without any support from that source. The Board of Pensioners under the new policy will assume that in each and every case a pension equal to the assigned and separation pay is due dependents of deceased and such an amount will be payable as from the date of death of the soldier and continued at the rate of \$40 a month until such time as the pension claim is officially settled and the pension either continued or cut off, as the case may be.

Another important regulation which will come into force will remove many grievances. An order will provide that the percentage of disability in pension claims, as fixed by the local examining board, shall not be subject to a new ruling at Ottawa. In the past Ottawa has often reduced the percentage of disability. In future this cannot take place, although Ottawa will have the power to demand a re-examination by the local Board.

MR. E. MAVAUT, CEMENT EXPERT.

Mr. Emmanuel Mavaut, formerly with the Public Works Department at Ottawa, Ont., some months ago joined the staff of engineers of The Milton Hersey Co., Ltd., Montreal, to take full charge of their cement, sand and stone testing laboratories, and be director of same. He is one of the longest and most experienced men in the line of testing all building and structural materials, especially research and special tests on cement, sand and stone.

He was for three years testing building and structural materials for the Public Works Department, Dominion Government, Ottawa, Ont., after which he became Assistant Director of the same laboratories, and acted in that capacity for nine years. In January, 1916, he joined the Canadian Inspection and Testing Laboratories at Montreal, as director of their cement laboratory, and is now with his new company to act in the same capacity.

The firm of Milton Hersey was indeed fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Mavaut, for with his addition to their company, they now have high class and proficient engineers as heads of departments representing practically every branch of the engineering profession.

Mr. Mavaut is now busy in equipping his laboratories with every appliance and machinery conceivable to carry on the test of cement, etc., in the most efficient manner.

He is also carrying on an extensive campaign to try and convince all engineers, architects and contractors to the importance of having all building and structural material tested and inspected.

We wish Mr. Mavaut every success in his new undertaking.

The Trenton War emergency General Committee, of which the Mayor is Chairman, has given unanimous approval to a proposal of their City Food Supply Committee for the establishment of a municipal wholesale and retail produce market.