

eligible for a dependent's pension? Or, are pensions to be refused to those who are not nearly related to him or are able to support themselves? At present, the tendency is to pay pension, without question, to all whose actual dependency on a soldier can be shown to exist.

Must disablement or death, to give right to pension, be the direct result of naval or military service? It is often difficult, even during a man's service—sometimes it is impossible, to determine whether a casualty is or is not the result of that service. The difficulty is the greater since after a man's discharge a disability, caused by events which occurred during his service, may appear or be increased. Because of these difficulties, unless death or disablement is caused by a man's own deliberate wrongdoing, most nations grant pensions for all who die or are disabled during their war service. A strong reason for doing so is the national desirability of ensuring a healthy home to every worthy citizen and his family; by his service, the quality of a soldier's citizenship is proven.

What standard of maintenance does pension provide? The standard of maintenance which pension should ensure is, by most nations, considered to be that decent comfort for himself and his family which the labour of an unskilled but healthy and willing man can always secure in the general market for labour such as his. It is a wise decision. That standard of decent comfort makes it certain that the homes of former sailors and soldiers can be those of efficient citizens.

In war, public service may be required from every citizen. The accident of vocational skill, or of private income, or of military rank, should make no difference in the amount of pension paid to each of two former civilians who, drafted for service under the same law, while advancing side by side, suffer identical injuries from a single shell. Like disabilities entitle to like pension. In estimating pensionability the degree of injury to the soldier's person alone is considered;—not his earning power or his manner of living as a civilian. Apart from its undesirability, the administrative