

PENSIONS FOR WOUNDS, ETC., ON ACTIVE SERVICE

438. The following rates of pension and remuneration will be granted militiamen wounded or disabled on active service, and to the widows and children of those who have been killed in battle or who have died from injuries or illness contracted on active service:—

Rank at time of wounds, illness, etc.	First Degree	Second Degree	Third Degree	Fourth Degree
Lieutenant	\$400	\$300	\$200	\$150
Warrant Officers.....	300	225	150	112
Staff-sergeant	240	180	120	90
Sergeant	200	150	100	75
Corporal	170	130	85	65
Private	150	110	75	55

(a) The first degree shall be applicable to those only who are rendered totally incapable of earning a livelihood as a result of wounds received in action.

(b) The second degree shall be applicable to those who are rendered totally incapable of earning a livelihood as a result of injuries received or illness contracted on active service, or rendered materially incapable as a result of wounds received in action.

(c) The third degree shall be applicable to those who are rendered materially incapable of earning a livelihood as a result of injuries received or illness contracted on active service or rendered in a small degree incapable of earning a livelihood as a result of wounds received in action.

(d) The fourth degree shall be applicable to those who are rendered in a small degree incapable of earning a livelihood as a result of injuries received or illness contracted on active service.

439. If the provision awarded to a widow or an orphan is in the form of a pension, the undermentioned rates per annum must not be exceeded in settling the amount of the pension, viz:—

440. To a widow a sum equal to three-tenths of what her late husband's daily pay would amount to for the period of twelve months.

With the advent of the Great War and mobilization of a large army mainly of civilians for active war service outside Canada, the inadequacy of existing legislation became apparent.

The situation, however, continued to be governed by Orders in Council administered by the Minister of Militia from the outbreak of the Great War until the passage of P.C. 1334 on June 3rd, 1916, which vested administration of all existing regulations in a Board of Pension Commissioners comprising three members.

Contingencies continued to be met by Order in Council until, upon recommendation by Parliamentary Committee, P.C. 3070 of December 21st, 1918, was passed. This Order in Council not only directed that the "Commissioners comprising the Pension Board shall devote the whole of their time to the performance of their duties", but also consolidated all previous pension provisions for direction of, and administration by the Board. In fact it would seem the terms of P.C. 3070 largely formed the basis of the original "Pension Act", Chapter 43 assented to on July 7th, 1919.

The absence of more comprehensive legislation prior to the enactment of 1919 will be more readily appreciated when it is recognized that until our participation in the Great War of 1914-1918, pensions had been paid mainly