

upon departments giving them medical attention, vocational training or assistance in finding employment has ceased. For that reason, it is advisable that all of the agencies by which the community liquidates its debt to those who died or have been disabled in the war, should gradually pass to the administrative control of the body administering pensions. In doing so very desirable co-ordination will be secured and conflict between governmental departments will be avoided. The word "all" is used advisedly. In some countries, private and semi-official societies publicly solicit subscriptions and distribute assistance to persons who suffered in the war and who cannot, under existing laws, be relieved by governmental pensioning bodies. Such a situation is inadmissible. There is no place for private charity in a plan of relief for war-caused hardship.

In conclusion, let it be repeated: satisfactory pensioning depends upon public realization of the principles underlying pensions, and upon efficient application of those principles. Essential to efficient administration are unhampered control by a central office and the maintenance of close personal touch with each individual pensioner by branch offices.

The work of pension administration cannot be definitely and finally charted; each day brings a pensioning body new troubles, new problems to be solved. War pensions must be governed by general principles; attempts at inelastic codification inevitably cause disastrous errors in the refusal or award of pension.

