

C O P Y

(80e)

Of a Report of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 8th July, 1885, respecting Regulations as to Pensions and Gratuities, Rebellion, North-West Territories.

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Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 8th July, 1885.

On a memorandum, dated 30th June, 1885 from the Minister of Militia and Defence, submitting for Your Excellency's approval the annexed regulations relating to gratuities and pensions to be granted under the provisions of section 68 of the Consolidated Militia Act of 1883, to officers and men of the Active Militia, who have been or may be killed or wounded in actual service after the 20th day of March, 1885, or who have died since that date, or may die hereafter from illness or injuries contracted in actual service.

The Minister observes that the proposed rates of pension to officers and soldiers for wounds or injuries received in action, and the regulations under which they are to be issued are the same as granted by order of the Governor General in Council, dated 21st of August, 1866, to officers and soldiers wounded or injured during the invasion of Canada by Fenians in 1866 and following years.

The Minister represents that the rates of pensions and gratuities proposed to be granted to widows, children and relatives of officers and soldiers killed in action, or who have died or may hereafter die from wounds received in action, or from illness or injuries contracted on actual service, are based as far as practicable upon Imperial Army Regulations, but as on that army pensions are not granted to the widows and families of deceased soldiers, the Minister considers that a change should be made for the reason that the conditions of service of Canada bring to the ranks of the active militia a class of the community whose claims are in his opinion as deserving of consideration as those of the officers. He has, therefore, adopted as far as practicable the rates allowed on the Imperial Regular service to the widows and families of deceased officers, and made similar provisions for the widows and families of deceased soldiers, based as in the case of officers on the respective ranks of those on whose account the pensions and gratuities are to be issued.

The Minister further represents that the distinction made in the Imperial Regulations has been followed in granting a higher rate of pension to those killed in action or who die from wounds received in action than to those who die from injuries or illness contracted on actual service. In both cases the rates fixed for lieutenants, colonels, majors and captains closely approximate those adopted in the Imperial Army but are less for Lieutenants owing to the Imperial rate for that rank being in excess of the actual difference in pay. Also there are two rates of pay for lieutenants in the active militia, the one in the permanent corps being higher than the other, and he, therefore, recommends in order to bring the rate of pension in that rank nearer to that in the Imperial army, that the minimum rate of pay for pension on account of deceased lieutenants, in all corps of the active militia be counted at \$2.44 per diem, which is the rate paid to lieutenants on appointment on the permanent corps of the Dominion. The Committee advise the adoption of the annexed regulations and they submit the same for Your Excellency's approval.

JOHN J. MCGEE, *Clerk Privy Council.*

Vide Militia General Order No. 14, of the 9th July, 1885, attached, showing rates of pensions, etc.