

widows and mothers of men in the three armed services. By September 1, 1944, 230 memorial crosses had been issued.

Through the Canadian Pension Commission, the Canadian government pays pensions for disabilities incurred by merchant seamen as a result of enemy action, and, in the event of death, pensions to the seamen's dependents. Rate of pension for disabilities ranges from \$900 up to \$1,560 for 100% disability cases, with allowance for dependents. Thirty-seven disability pensions are being paid to merchant seamen. In the event of death, pension to the widow ranges from \$720 to \$1,248, according to rank or rating. Death pensions are being paid to 400 adults and to 246 children. Recipients include widows, dependent parents and guardians looking after children.

Merchant seamen captured by the enemy are paid compensation, on the basis of their pay, through the Canadian Pension Commission. Before this was arranged, seamen's pay stopped as soon as they were captured, and hardship for their dependents resulted. An amount equivalent to that which the seaman had allotted to his dependents may be paid to them directly out of the detention allowance. The balance is banked on his behalf. Detention allowance is being paid to 128 merchant seamen interned in Germany and 17 interned in Asia.

Provision for hospitalization and treatment of merchant seamen, within certain limitations, existed in pre-war days under the Canada Shipping Act, and a levy for this purpose was made against vessels entering Canadian ports. As a war measure, these facilities have been greatly extended so that no seamen who has served on a Canadian ship and who is suffering from sickness or injury as a result of the war is left without treatment.

In certain cases training and assistance under the Canadian post-discharge re-establishment arrangements are provided for seamen who are prevented from following their former occupation as a result of war occupation.

Facilities for the welfare of merchant seamen in Canadian ports are supervised and co-ordinated by the director of merchant seamen. Assistance has been given to existing seamen's clubs and hostels to provide the maximum facilities for the care, comfort and recreation of seamen while ashore. A valuable arrangement was made with the Navy League of Canada whereby that organization established up-to-date clubs for the exclusive use of merchant seamen in Halifax, Sydney, Louisburg, Saint John, Quebec, Three Rivers, Montreal, Vancouver, and Victoria. Clubs exclusively for merchant navy officers have also been opened in Halifax, Sydney, Saint John and Montreal. Special recreation and sport facilities are provided by these clubs.

Outstanding contributions in the way of woollen comforts, reading material and educational facilities, care and comforts for shipwrecked seamen have been provided by the Canadian Red Cross Society, the Navy League of Canada, Independent Order Daughters of the Empire, Canadian Legion, Knights of Columbus, Young Men's Christian Association, Salvation Army, women's naval auxiliaries and other national and local organizations.

Establishment of a central mailing office for handling seamen's mail with a view to accelerating delivery has met a long felt want in the merchant navy service.

Forty-three Canadian merchant seamen have received awards for gallant action and devotion to duty while serving on vessels of Canadian registry. Of these, 17 have been made officers of the Order of the British Empire, 17 Members of the Order of the British Empire, seven have been awarded the British Empire Medal and three have had official commendation. In addition, many Canadian merchant seamen serving on vessels of other than Canadian registry have been awarded decorations by the governments of the United Kingdom, the United States, Norway and others.