

wives are pensioned until they die, or having become widows, remarry; children are pensioned—often with a special educational allowance—until they are able to support themselves. The extent of the obligation upon children to support their parents varies in different communities; it is, therefore, natural that there should be considerable variation in the regulations under which pension is provided for the ascendent relations of injured soldiers. In Canada, proof that dependency actually existed justifies pension to parents; but pension is not awardable in cases where need for support eventuates after the death, or injury, of the man upon whom a father or mother would otherwise have become dependent. Some method, possibly by insurance facilities, of providing against "prospective dependency" would be welcomed, especially in the Provinces of Quebec and Prince Edward Island, where indigent parents have a legal right to support from their children.

Pension payments are made to a disabled man only when he is discharged; payments to a soldier's dependents commence at his death. Pension is intended to provide subsistence, "decent comfort," for those receiving it; it is confined to that purpose by regulations forbidding its attachment, assignment or commutation. In France, strict laws with severe penalties forbid the lending of money upon pensions. Pension payments are best made monthly, at least, since they go to persons who often are accustomed to receiving their income at short intervals. Although a pension is a debt owed by the State to its recipient, there are instances where the scandalous conduct of a pensioner makes the continuation of pension a matter prejudicial to public order and justifies its cancellation.

Disability resulting from war service gives right to pension whenever and wherever it appears. In estimating the extent of a disability resulting from a given injury, the physicians and surgeons, whose duty it is, establish and record by appropriate means, first, the exact nature of the detriment present, and then, guided by a table of disabilities established by