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CHAPTER 5

REPATRIATION

The Repatriation Commission, established under the *Repatriation Act 1920–1967*, consists of three full-time members. It is responsible for the administration of the Repatriation Act and associated legislation, all matters of policy, and the general administration and overall supervision of the Repatriation Department. The central office is in Melbourne and there is a branch office, under the control of a Deputy Commissioner, in each State.

The principal functions of the Department are: the payment of war and service pensions to eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants; the provision of medical treatment for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen for injuries and illnesses caused or aggravated by their war service; the provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances to ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from injuries and illnesses not caused or aggravated by war service; and the provision of medical treatment to widows and dependants of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths are due to war service.

Benefits are provided in respect of service, not only in the 1914–18 and 1939–45 Wars, but also in the Korea and Malaya operations and with the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve and the Special Overseas Forces.

Other functions of the Repatriation Department are outlined in a later section of this chapter.

For information on war service land settlement *see* Chapter 19, Public Finance; for statistics relating to war service homes *see* Chapters 9, Housing and Building and 19, Public Finance.

War pensions

The first provision for the payment of war pensions to ex-servicemen and their dependants was made by the Commonwealth Parliament in the *War Pensions Act 1914*. This Act was repealed in 1920 by the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920* (amended from 31 December 1950 to the Repatriation Act). The main features relating to war pensions under repatriation legislation are set out in the following paragraphs.

Eligibility for pensions

Claims for eligibility for war pensions are determined in the first instance by Repatriation Boards, of which there is one in each State of the Commonwealth. Members of women's services are eligible for pensions and other benefits, as prescribed in the Act, on the same basis as male members of the forces. Amendments to the Act in 1943 considerably widened the eligibility provisions, to the benefit, mainly, of members of the Citizen Military Forces who had not served outside Australia. These provisions are summarised as follows:

A member of the forces who served (a) outside Australia, (b) in the Territories of Australia, such as Papua and New Guinea, or (c) within Australia in circumstances which can be regarded as combat against the enemy is covered for war pension purposes in respect of incapacity or death which may result from any occurrence that happened during the period from the date of his enlistment to the date of the termination of his service in respect of that enlistment.

In other cases where a member served only in Australia, incapacity or death to be pensionable must have been attributable to service.

There is a third ground applicable to all members except those with less than six months camp service. This provides that, where a condition existed at enlistment, a pension may accrue if it is considered that the condition was aggravated by service.

If, at any time after discharge, an ex-serviceman who served in a theatre of war becomes incapacitated or dies from pulmonary tuberculosis, war pension is payable as if the incapacity or death resulted from an occurrence on service (*see also* Service pensions, page 98). Medical treatment may also be provided.

Korea and Malaya operations. The commencement of hostilities in Korea and Malaya in 1950 made necessary the insertion in the Repatriation Act of a new division, under the terms of which the pension provisions of the Act were extended to Australian ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who served or were allotted for duty in prescribed operational areas. A new Regulation was also made, in 1951, to make such service personnel eligible for almost all the benefits available under the existing Regulations applicable to members of the forces.

Repatriation (Far East Strategic Reserve) Act 1956–1966. Provision was made under this Act for Australian forces who served in south-east Asia as part of the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve. This Act, together with Regulations made under it, gave members with Malayan service the right to many benefits available under the Repatriation Act.

Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) Act 1962–1966. This legislation provides repatriation benefits for serving members of the defence forces, the circumstances of whose service expose them to risks above the normal conditions of peace-time service. Regulations made under the Act prescribe special areas within which service qualifies for Repatriation benefits. These special areas now include the Malayan Peninsula and Singapore and fifty miles to seaward but excluding the territories of Indonesia; South Vietnam; an area in Borneo comprising Sarawak, Brunei and Sabah; and an area fifty miles to seaward but excluding any territories of the Philippines.

Rates

The main classes of war pensions are the special (T.P.I.) rate, the intermediate rate, the general rate, and the war widow's pension. These are not subject to a means test except where stated for certain classes of dependants.

The *special rate* of war pension is payable to those who are totally and permanently incapacitated and are unable to earn more than a negligible percentage of a living wage. The weekly rate is \$30.50, plus \$4.05 wife's allowance and \$1.38 for each child under sixteen years.

The *intermediate rate* of war pension, which previously applied only to certain cases of tuberculosis, was extended from 6 October 1965 to include ex-servicemen who, because of the severity of a war-caused incapacity, can only work part-time or intermittently and in consequence are unable to earn a living wage. The weekly rate is \$21.25, plus \$4.05 wife's allowance and \$1.38 for each child under sixteen years.

The *general rate* of war pension is the rate payable to those who suffer war-caused disabilities but are not thereby prevented from working, although their earning capacity may be reduced. The actual pension payable is assessed in accordance with the degree of incapacity suffered. The maximum (100 per cent) rate is \$12 a week. A wife and children under sixteen years also receive pensions at rates according to the assessed degree of incapacity of the ex-serviceman, the maximum being \$4.05 for a wife and \$1.38 for each child.

The *war widow's pension* is paid to widows of ex-servicemen who died as a result of war service and to their children under the age of sixteen years. A war widow's pension may also be paid to the widow of an ex-serviceman who was receiving, at the time of his death, the special rate of war pension or the rate payable to double amputees. The weekly rates are: widow, \$13; first child, \$4.40; second and each subsequent child, \$3.25.

Other dependants of an ex-serviceman who is suffering from a disability due to war service may be granted pensions under certain circumstances. Such pensions are subject to a means test and are assessed in accordance with the degree of the ex-serviceman's incapacity. Except in the case of a widowed mother of an unmarried ex-serviceman, other dependants are required to prove dependence on the ex-serviceman.

Allowances

The following allowances are provided in addition to pension.

Domestic allowance (\$7 a week). This is paid, in addition to pension, to a widow of an ex-serviceman whose death is due to war service if she is fifty years of age, or is permanently unemployable, or has a dependent child under the age of sixteen years, or a dependent child over sixteen years being educated or trained and not in receipt of an adequate living wage.

Attendant's allowance (maximum rate \$10.50 a week). This allowance is paid, in addition to war pension, to certain classes of seriously disabled ex-servicemen, for example, the war blinded, the paralysed, and certain double amputees.

Clothing allowance. A clothing allowance is paid at various rates (38c to 75c a week) to an ex-serviceman who, as a result of war service, has lost an arm or a leg or, because of an injury to a limb, is required to use a surgical aid or appliance. An amount not exceeding \$19.50 in any one year is also payable to certain other war disabled ex-servicemen.

Sustenance allowance. This allowance is paid where an ex-serviceman is prevented from following his normal occupation through treatment of a war-caused disability or while undergoing medical investigation. The rate payable, where out-patient treatment is being received for a period of up to four weeks, or in-patient medical investigation is being carried out, is the same as the general (100 per cent) rate pension, less the amount of any war pension being paid.

Where an ex-serviceman, receiving in-patient treatment for a war-caused disability, is undergoing periods of essential convalescence immediately following discharge from hospital, or is prevented from following his usual occupation because of the necessity of out-patient treatment for a war-caused disability for a continuous period in excess of four weeks, a higher rate to bring the sustenance allowance up to the equivalent of the special (T.P.I.) rate is paid.

The wife, and any children under sixteen years of age, of an ex-serviceman who is receiving a sustenance allowance, are paid an amount which, when added to any war pension being paid, is equal to the full general rate pension for a wife and such children.

Recreation transport allowance. This allowance provides transport for recreation purposes and may be paid to an ex-serviceman who, as a result of war service, suffers certain amputations of the arms or legs or is seriously disabled to the extent that his powers of locomotion are negligible.

Other allowances and general assistance. These include a guardian's allowance, re-establishment loans and allowances, funeral benefits, vocational training allowances for education and training of children, fares and allowances for loss of remunerative time in connection with medical or pension purposes, and motor vehicle allowances for seriously disabled ex-servicemen.

Appeals tribunals

The principal Act was amended as from 1 June 1929 to create tribunals to hear appeals in respect of war pensions. War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunals are empowered to hear and decide any appeal by or on behalf of ex-servicemen or their dependants against decisions of a Repatriation Board or the Repatriation Commission that the incapacity or death of an ex-serviceman did not arise out of war service. Assessment Appeal Tribunals were created to hear and decide any appeal against a current assessment or a 'Nil' assessment of war pension made by a Repatriation Board or the Repatriation Commission in respect of the incapacity of an ex-serviceman which had been accepted as arising out of war service. Provision was made by subsequent legislation to enable the tribunals to hear appeals by certain members whose applications for a service pension had been refused on the grounds that they were not suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis or were permanently unemployable.

Summary of war pensions

The following tables provide a summary of war pensions (excluding miscellaneous war pensions) for the 1914-18 War, the 1939-45 War (including war pensions payable under the *Interim Forces Benefits Act 1947-1966* and the *Native Members of the Forces Act 1957-1966*), the Korea and Malaya operations, the Far East Strategic Reserve, and the Special Overseas Service. Statistics relating to miscellaneous war pensions are shown on pages 97 and 98 of this Chapter.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67

| | | 1914-18 War | 1939-45 War(a) | Korea and Malaya operations | Far East Strategic Reserve | Special Overseas Service(b) | Total |
|--|--------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| New claims granted | No. | 1,184 | 18,150 | 687 | 284 | 816 | 21,121 |
| Restorations | No. | 113 | 402 | 8 | .. | 3 | 526 |
| Claims rejected(c) | No. | 1,110 | 5,409 | 233 | 98 | 152 | 7,002 |
| Pensions cancelled (gross) | No. | 305 | 25,164 | 216 | 32 | 15 | 25,732 |
| Deaths of pensioners | No. | 5,624 | 5,232 | 36 | 5 | 1 | 10,898 |
| Number of pensions in force at 30 June 1967 | | 98,270 | 519,877 | 10,781 | 1,271 | 975 | 631,174 |
| Annual pension liability at 30 June 1967 | \$'000 | 55,307 | 106,615 | 1,195 | 126 | 145 | 163,388 |
| Amount paid in pensions during the year 1966-67 | \$'000 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 161,399 |

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces. (b) See page 92—*Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) Act 1962-1966.* (c) Number of ex-servicemen who had their claims for all their disabilities rejected.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1962-63 TO 1966-67

| | 1962-63 | 1963-64 | 1964-65 | 1965-66 | 1966-67 |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| New claims granted | 36,189 | 32,417 | 27,879 | 22,750 | 21,121 |
| Restorations | 1,035 | 992 | 803 | 571 | 526 |
| <i>Total additions</i> | <i>37,224</i> | <i>33,409</i> | <i>28,682</i> | <i>23,321</i> | <i>21,647</i> |
| Pensions cancelled (gross) | 28,020 | 25,285 | 25,948 | 26,450 | 25,732 |
| Deaths of pensioners | 8,867 | 9,441 | 10,342 | 10,308 | 10,898 |
| <i>Total reductions</i> | <i>36,887</i> | <i>34,726</i> | <i>36,290</i> | <i>36,758</i> | <i>36,630</i> |

Classes of war pensions

The following tables provide an analysis of the total number of new claims granted, pensions in force, and members on special rates for 1966-67.

WAR PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67

| <i>Class</i> | <i>1914-18 War</i> | <i>1939-45 War(a)</i> | <i>Korea and Malaya operations</i> | <i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i> | <i>Special Overseas Service</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|---------------|
| Ex-servicemen | 536 | 5,197 | 126 | 68 | 315 | 6,242 |
| Wives and widows of ex-servicemen | 613 | 5,452 | 143 | 67 | 192 | 6,467 |
| Children | 29 | 7,330 | 416 | 149 | 297 | 8,221 |
| Other dependants | 6 | 171 | 2 | .. | 12 | 191 |
| Total | 1,184 | 18,150 | 687 | 284 | 816 | 21,121 |

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

WAR PENSIONS IN FORCE: AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1967

| <i>Class</i> | <i>1914-18 War</i> | <i>1939-45 War(a)</i> | <i>Korea and Malaya operations</i> | <i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i> | <i>Special Overseas Service</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|----------------|
| Ex-servicemen | 36,429 | 182,830 | 2,905 | 378 | 370 | 222,912 |
| Wives | 36,659 | 156,527 | 2,260 | 278 | 204 | 195,928 |
| Children | 519 | 146,966 | 5,223 | 556 | 302 | 153,566 |
| War widows | 23,950 | 21,027 | 118 | 15 | 33 | 45,143 |
| Children of deceased ex-servicemen | 93 | 5,730 | 153 | 39 | 53 | 6,068 |
| Orphans | 20 | 136 | 4 | 1 | .. | 161 |
| Parents | 375 | 6,238 | 113 | 3 | 13 | 6,742 |
| Others | 225 | 423 | 5 | 1 | .. | 654 |
| Total | 98,270 | 519,877 | 10,781 | 1,271 | 975 | 631,174 |

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

WAR PENSIONS: MEMBERS ON SPECIAL RATES OR EQUIVALENT, AUSTRALIA
30 JUNE 1967

| <i>Class</i> | <i>1914-18 War</i> | <i>1939-45 War(a)</i> | <i>Korea and Malaya operations</i> | <i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i> | <i>Special Overseas Service</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|---------------|
| Totally and permanently incapacitated ex-servicemen | 10,390 | 11,209 | 47 | 1 | 1 | 21,648 |
| Blinded ex-servicemen | 188 | 245 | 1 | .. | 1 | 435 |
| Tuberculous ex-servicemen | 337 | 203 | 6 | .. | .. | 546 |
| Tuberculous ex-servicemen (intermediate rate) | 70 | 191 | 5 | .. | .. | 266 |
| Temporarily totally incapacitated ex-servicemen | 271 | 1,557 | 19 | 7 | 1 | 1,855 |
| Ex-servicemen suffering other disabilities | 44 | 49 | 2 | .. | 1 | 96 |
| Total | 11,300 | 13,454 | 80 | 8 | 4 | 24,846 |

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

Number of war pensions and annual liability, States, etc.

The following table shows the number of pensions in force and annual liability for each war, field of operations, or service at 30 June 1967, according to place of payment. (The amount paid is shown on page 97 of this chapter.)

**WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY
STATES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1967**

| Place of payment | Number of war pensions in force at 30 June 1967 | | | Total | Annual pension liability(a) (\$'000) |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------|---|
| | Incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen | | |
| 1914-18 WAR | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 11,805 | 11,942 | 8,332 | 32,079 | 18,583 |
| Victoria | 11,744 | 11,797 | 8,158 | 31,699 | 18,193 |
| Queensland | 4,986 | 4,971 | 2,616 | 12,573 | 7,297 |
| South Australia(c) | 2,902 | 3,111 | 1,973 | 7,986 | 4,301 |
| Western Australia | 2,804 | 3,284 | 1,613 | 7,701 | 3,526 |
| Tasmania | 1,520 | 1,524 | 1,002 | 4,046 | 2,508 |
| Abroad | 668 | 870 | 648 | 2,186 | 899 |
| Total | 36,429 | 37,499 | 24,342 | 98,270 | 55,307 |
| 1939-45 WAR(d) | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 64,796 | 102,890 | 12,383 | 180,069 | 38,160 |
| Victoria | 49,426 | 83,502 | 8,648 | 141,576 | 28,448 |
| Queensland | 27,498 | 48,197 | 4,891 | 80,586 | 17,701 |
| South Australia(c) | 17,664 | 30,035 | 3,076 | 50,775 | 9,389 |
| Western Australia | 15,948 | 25,499 | 2,704 | 44,151 | 8,379 |
| Tasmania | 6,929 | 13,152 | 1,010 | 21,091 | 4,070 |
| Abroad | 569 | 763 | 297 | 1,629 | 468 |
| Total | 182,830 | 304,038 | 33,009 | 519,877 | 106,615 |
| KOREA AND MALAYA OPERATIONS | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 1,149 | 2,836 | 169 | 4,154 | 456 |
| Victoria | 658 | 1,613 | 51 | 2,322 | 246 |
| Queensland | 513 | 1,398 | 80 | 1,991 | 245 |
| South Australia(c) | 200 | 550 | 17 | 767 | 83 |
| Western Australia | 236 | 680 | 30 | 946 | 98 |
| Tasmania | 101 | 321 | 18 | 440 | 45 |
| Abroad | 48 | 88 | 25 | 161 | 22 |
| Total | 2,905 | 7,486 | 390 | 10,781 | 1,195 |
| FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 150 | 375 | 30 | 555 | 52 |
| Victoria | 67 | 127 | 18 | 212 | 24 |
| Queensland | 108 | 224 | 6 | 338 | 35 |
| South Australia(c) | 12 | 36 | .. | 48 | 2 |
| Western Australia | 30 | 48 | 2 | 80 | 6 |
| Tasmania | 9 | 19 | 1 | 29 | 4 |
| Abroad | 2 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| Total | 378 | 835 | 58 | 1,271 | 126 |

(a) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY STATES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1967—*continued*

| Place of payment | Number of war pensions in force at 30 June 1967 | | | Total | Annual pension liability(a) (\$'000) |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen | | |
| SPECIAL OVERSEAS SERVICE | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 169 | 223 | 51 | 443 | 69 |
| Victoria | 54 | 78 | 9 | 141 | 19 |
| Queensland | 92 | 155 | 22 | 269 | 35 |
| South Australia(c) | 18 | 22 | 9 | 49 | 8 |
| Western Australia | 23 | 27 | 7 | 57 | 11 |
| Tasmania | 14 | 2 | .. | 16 | 3 |
| Abroad | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Total | 370 | 507 | 98 | 975 | 145 |
| TOTAL | | | | | |
| New South Wales(b) | 78,069 | 118,266 | 20,965 | 217,300 | 57,320 |
| Victoria | 61,949 | 97,117 | 16,884 | 175,950 | 46,930 |
| Queensland | 33,197 | 54,945 | 7,615 | 95,757 | 25,313 |
| South Australia(c) | 20,796 | 33,754 | 5,075 | 59,625 | 13,783 |
| Western Australia | 19,041 | 29,538 | 4,356 | 52,935 | 12,020 |
| Tasmania | 8,573 | 15,018 | 2,031 | 25,622 | 6,630 |
| Abroad | 1,287 | 1,727 | 971 | 3,985 | 1,392 |
| Grand total | 222,912 | 350,365 | 57,897 | 631,174 | 163,388 |

(a) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

Summary of war pensions, 1962-63 to 1966-67

The following table shows, for each war, field of operations, or service, and in total, the number of pensions granted, claims rejected, pensions in force, and the annual liability for pensions in each of the years ended 30 June 1963 to 1967.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1962-63 TO 1966-67

| Year | Number of war pensions in force at 30 June— | | | | | Total | Annual pension liability at 30 June (b) (\$'000) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------|--|
| | Pensions granted | Claims rejected(a) | Incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen | | |
| 1914-18 WAR | | | | | | | |
| 1962-63 | 2,394 | 1,854 | 46,606 | 45,212 | 23,566 | 115,384 | 47,410 |
| 1963-64 | 2,050 | 1,678 | 44,401 | 43,521 | 23,846 | 111,768 | 47,145 |
| 1964-65 | 1,631 | 1,481 | 41,820 | 41,353 | 24,191 | 107,364 | 47,730 |
| 1965-66 | 1,455 | 1,402 | 39,219 | 39,511 | 24,311 | 103,041 | 54,818 |
| 1966-67 | 1,184 | 1,110 | 36,429 | 37,499 | 24,342 | 98,270 | 55,307 |
| 1939-45 WAR(c) | | | | | | | |
| 1962-63 | 32,567 | 6,125 | 170,621 | 345,990 | 29,728 | 546,339 | 81,103 |
| 1963-64 | 29,301 | 6,113 | 175,377 | 341,464 | 30,816 | 547,657 | 85,363 |
| 1964-65 | 25,173 | 5,525 | 178,558 | 331,398 | 31,865 | 541,821 | 92,050 |
| 1965-66 | 20,156 | 5,620 | 180,976 | 318,210 | 32,418 | 531,604 | 100,837 |
| 1966-67 | 18,150 | 5,409 | 182,830 | 304,038 | 33,009 | 519,877 | 106,615 |

(a) The number of claimants who had the claims for all their disabilities rejected. (b) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. (c) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1962-63 TO 1966-67—continued

| Year | Number of war pensions in force at 30 June— | | | | | | Annual pension liability at 30 June (b) (\$'000) | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------|--|--|
| | Pensions granted | Claims rejected(a) | Incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen | Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen | Total | | |
| KOREA AND MALAYA OPERATIONS | | | | | | | | |
| 1962-63 | 1,035 | 342 | 2,412 | 5,618 | 290 | 8,320 | 876 | |
| 1963-64 | 862 | 271 | 2,554 | 6,175 | 322 | 9,051 | 945 | |
| 1964-65 | 858 | 231 | 2,687 | 6,673 | 340 | 9,700 | 1,031 | |
| 1965-66 | 801 | 277 | 2,807 | 7,140 | 370 | 10,317 | 1,116 | |
| 1966-67 | 687 | 233 | 2,905 | 7,486 | 390 | 10,781 | 1,195 | |
| FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE | | | | | | | | |
| 1962-63 | 193 | 48 | 166 | 264 | 36 | 466 | 48 | |
| 1963-64 | 196 | 58 | 223 | 396 | 39 | 658 | 62 | |
| 1964-65 | 208 | 49 | 275 | 536 | 39 | 850 | 76 | |
| 1965-66 | 170 | 87 | 314 | 646 | 52 | 1,012 | 99 | |
| 1966-67 | 284 | 98 | 378 | 835 | 58 | 1,271 | 126 | |
| SPECIAL OVERSEAS SERVICE(c) | | | | | | | | |
| 1963-64 | 8 | .. | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 | |
| 1964-65 | 9 | .. | 3 | 8 | 6 | 17 | 3 | |
| 1965-66 | 168 | 17 | 61 | 76 | 44 | 181 | 34 | |
| 1966-67 | 816 | 152 | 370 | 507 | 98 | 975 | 145 | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | | |
| 1962-63 | 36,189 | 8,369 | 219,805 | 397,084 | 53,620 | 670,509 | 129,437 | |
| 1963-64 | 32,417 | 8,120 | 222,556 | 391,561 | 55,025 | 669,142 | 133,516 | |
| 1964-65 | 27,879 | 7,286 | 223,343 | 379,968 | 56,441 | 659,752 | 140,889 | |
| 1965-66 | 22,750 | 7,403 | 223,377 | 365,583 | 57,195 | 646,155 | 156,904 | |
| 1966-67 | 21,121 | 7,002 | 222,912 | 350,365 | 57,897 | 631,174 | 163,388 | |

(a) The number of claimants who had the claims for all their disabilities rejected. (b) Includes domestic allowances payable to widows. (c) Not applicable prior to 1963-64.

The following table shows, for the years 1962-63 to 1966-67, the amounts paid in pensions and the places where they were paid.

WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID(a), STATES, ETC., 1962-63 TO 1966-67 (\$'000)

| Place of payment | 1962-63 to 1966-67 | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1962-63 | 1963-64 (b) | 1964-65 | 1965-66 (b) | 1966-67 |
| New South Wales(c) | 48,106 | 53,108 | 52,809 | 58,851 | 55,884 |
| Victoria | 41,815 | 45,526 | 45,064 | 49,526 | 46,882 |
| Queensland | 20,750 | 23,040 | 23,295 | 25,928 | 24,992 |
| South Australia(d) | 12,349 | 13,500 | 13,209 | 14,633 | 13,613 |
| Western Australia | 10,509 | 11,547 | 11,430 | 12,617 | 11,869 |
| Tasmania | 5,663 | 6,152 | 6,210 | 6,914 | 6,650 |
| Abroad | 1,539 | 1,656 | 1,466 | 1,677 | 1,509 |
| Total | 140,731 | 154,530 | 153,483 | 170,146 | 161,399 |

(a) Includes domestic allowances paid to widows. (b) Includes five 12-weekly payments. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (d) Includes Northern Territory.

Miscellaneous war pensions

The Commission is also responsible for the payment of pensions and allowances to beneficiaries under the *Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act 1940-1967* and Cabinet decisions granting eligibility to persons who were attached to the armed forces during war-time.

The following table shows the number and class of pensions and the annual liability at 30 June 1967, and the table thereafter shows the amounts paid during the years 1962-63 to 1966-67 and the place of payment.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1967

| Class | Number of pensions in force at 30 June 1967 | | | Total | Annual pension liability (\$'000) |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Members (a) | Dependants of members | Dependants of deceased members | | |
| Act of grace | 121 | 147 | 60 | 328 | 111 |
| Seamen's war pension | 82 | 114 | 78 | 274 | 86 |
| New Guinea civilians | 1 | .. | 82 | 83 | 84 |
| Total | 204 | 261 | 220 | 685 | 281 |

(a) 'Member' in this context is a person in respect of whose wartime experience a pension is paid.

**MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC.
1962-63 TO 1966-67
(\$'000)**

| Place of payment | 1962-63 | 1963-64 (a) | 1964-65 | 1965-66 (a) | 1966-67 |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| New South Wales(b) | 144 | 150 | 156 | 161 | 148 |
| Victoria | 67 | 71 | 70 | 76 | 71 |
| Queensland | 38 | 45 | 42 | 46 | 44 |
| South Australia(c) | 32 | 35 | 30 | 34 | 29 |
| Western Australia | 17 | 17 | 17 | 20 | 20 |
| Tasmania | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Abroad | 3 | .. | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Total | 305 | 323 | 321 | 344 | 317 |

(a) Includes five 12-weekly payments.
(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

Service pensions

The *Repatriation Act 1920-1967* provides for a service pension to be paid, subject to a means test of income and property, to the following persons:

- ex-servicemen who served in a theatre of war and have attained the age of sixty years or are permanently unemployable;
- ex-servicemen who suffer from pulmonary tuberculosis, irrespective of the area of their service; and
- ex-servicewomen who suffer from tuberculosis, or who served in a theatre of war, or served abroad or embarked for service abroad and have attained the age of fifty-five years, or are permanently unemployable.

Rates of pension

The maximum rate of service pension is the same as that paid to an age or invalid pensioner by the Department of Social Services. A single or married ex-serviceman receives a pension of \$13.00 a week. If, however, an ex-serviceman's wife is receiving a social service pension, a tuberculosis allowance or a service pension as a member of the forces, the rate is \$11.75 a week. The service pension of an ex-serviceman is increased by \$1.50 a week for each eligible child other than the first and by \$4.00 a week if a guardian's allowance is payable.

The maximum weekly rates payable to a service pensioner's wife and eligible children are: wife \$6.00; first child, \$1.50; other children up to the fourth, 25c each. *Eligible child* means a child of a service pensioner under the age of sixteen years, or a child over that age who is wholly or substantially dependent on the pensioner and is undergoing full-time education, in which case pension may continue until the child's twenty-first birthday.

Supplementary assistance of \$2.00 a week is paid in addition to service pension to an ex-serviceman who is paying rent, or for lodging, or board and lodging, and whose *means as assessed* do not exceed \$1.00 a week or \$2.00 a week if he is married. (The allowance is reduced if the *means as assessed* exceed these amounts.)

A service pensioner who is unmarried, widowed, divorced, or married but separated, and who has care and control of one or more children, qualifies for a guardian's allowance of \$4.00 a week.

The means test sets limits to the amount of income or property which a pensioner may have for the purpose of service pension. The amount of service pension payable depends upon the claimant's *means as assessed*, which consist of his annual rate of income plus a property component equal to \$2.00 for each complete unit of \$20 of net value of property above \$400. For married couples, except where they are separated or in other special circumstances, the income and property of each for purposes of applying the means test is taken to be half the total income and property of both, even if only one is a pensioner or claimant. A person's *means as assessed* may consist entirely of income, entirely of property, or of both income and property components. If a single person's *means as assessed* do not exceed \$7 a week, he receives the maximum rate of pension. If his *means as assessed* exceed \$7 a week, the rate payable is the maximum rate less the amount by which *means as assessed* exceed \$7 a week. If his *means as assessed* are \$20 a week or more, no service pension is payable.

Income means earnings and other forms of income derived from any source, with certain exceptions, of which the principal are: certain income derived from property; gifts or allowances from children, parents, brothers or sisters; benefits from friendly societies; child endowment; Commonwealth health benefits. The value of board and lodging received by a pensioner, either free or in return for services, is normally assessed as income at \$1.25 a week. Property includes all real and personal property, such as houses, land, money in hand, in a bank or on loan, shares, investments or legacies, vehicles used for business purposes, and livestock. Property does not include an applicant's permanent home, furniture or personal effects, the surrender value of life insurance policies (up to \$1,500), the value of any reversionary interest, the capital value of any life interest, annuity or contingent interest, or vehicles maintained only for personal use.

Eligibility for service pensions was extended on 1 November 1941 to veterans of the South African War 1899-1902 and in 1943 to members of the Forces of the 1939-45 War. Members of the Forces who served in Korea and those who served in Malaya prior to the commencement of the *Repatriation (Far East Strategic Reserve) Act 1956-1966* are also eligible.

An ex-serviceman or ex-servicewoman in receipt of a service pension is entitled, with certain exceptions, to free medical benefits for disabilities not caused by war. These benefits include general practitioner service, specialist service where necessary, full pharmaceutical benefits, surgical aids and appliances (including spectacles), dental treatment, and treatment in Repatriation General Hospitals.

Operations

SERVICE PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67

| | South African War | 1914-18 War | 1939-45 War (a) | Korea- Malaya operations | Miscel- laneous (b) | Total |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| New claims granted | 9 | 2,701 | 5,821 | 35 | 12 | 8,578 |
| Restorations | .. | 459 | 597 | .. | .. | 1,056 |
| Cancellations (gross) | 12 | 1,796 | 2,375 | 14 | .. | 4,197 |
| Deaths | 52 | 3,341 | 967 | 1 | 1 | 4,362 |
| Pensions in force at 30 June 1967 | 282 | 42,161 | 24,442 | 87 | 21 | 66,993 |
| Annual liability at 30 June 1967 | | | | | | |
| \$'000 | 125 | 21,242 | 9,840 | 25 | 7 | 31,239 |
| Amount paid in pensions during 1966-67 \$'000 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 29,126 |

(a) Includes native members of the forces. (b) Act of grace pensions.

SERVICE PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1962-63 TO 1966-67

| | 1962-63 | 1963-64 | 1964-65 | 1965-66 | 1966-67 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| New claims granted | 11,485 | 10,026 | 8,273 | 8,048 | 8,578 |
| Restorations | 962 | 1,065 | 1,035 | 1,052 | 1,056 |
| <i>Total additions</i> | <i>12,447</i> | <i>11,091</i> | <i>9,308</i> | <i>9,100</i> | <i>9,634</i> |
| Cancellations (gross) | 4,595 | 4,679 | 4,948 | 4,259 | 4,197 |
| Deaths | 3,274 | 3,573 | 3,947 | 4,000 | 4,362 |
| <i>Total reductions</i> | <i>7,869</i> | <i>8,252</i> | <i>8,895</i> | <i>8,259</i> | <i>8,559</i> |

Classes of service pensions

The following tables give an analysis of the total number of new claims granted and pensions in force for 1966-67.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1966-67

| Class | South African War | 1914-18 War | 1939-45 War (a) | Korea Malaya operations | Miscellaneous | Total |
|---|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ex-servicemen | 9 | 2,006 | 3,356 | 10 | .. | 5,381 |
| Wives and widows of ex-servicemen | .. | 612 | 1,306 | 7 | .. | 1,925 |
| Children | .. | 83 | 1,159 | 18 | .. | 1,260 |
| Other | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 12 |
| Total | 9 | 2,701 | 5,821 | 35 | 12 | 8,578 |

(a) Includes native members of the forces.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, STATES, 30 JUNE 1967

| State | South African War | 1914-18 War | 1939-45 War (a) | Korea-Malaya operations | Miscellaneous | Total |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| New South Wales(b) | 137 | 13,510 | 7,602 | 34 | .. | 21,283 |
| Victoria | 39 | 11,222 | 5,132 | 19 | 11 | 16,423 |
| Queensland | 31 | 6,787 | 5,216 | 12 | 3 | 12,049 |
| South Australia(c) | 35 | 4,784 | 2,095 | 7 | 5 | 6,926 |
| Western Australia | 33 | 4,366 | 3,264 | 9 | 2 | 7,674 |
| Tasmania | 7 | 1,492 | 1,133 | 6 | .. | 2,638 |
| Australia | 282 | 42,161 | 24,442 | 87 | 21 | 66,993 |

(a) Includes native members of the forces.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes Northern Territory.

Number, by class, of service pensions and amount paid

The following tables show the number of each class of service pension in force, the annual liability and the amounts paid for the years 1962-63 to 1966-67.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER OF EACH CLASS OF PENSION AND ANNUAL LIABILITY AUSTRALIA, 1962-63 TO 1966-67

| Year | Number of service pensions at 30 June payable to— | | | | | | Total | Annual pension liability at 30 June (\$'000) |
|------------|---|--------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------|--|
| | Ex-servicemen who are— | | Dependants(a) of ex-servicemen where the ex-serviceman is— | | | | | |
| | Aged ex-servicemen | Permanently unemployable | Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis | Aged or permanently unemployable | Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis | Miscellaneous(b) | | |
| 1962-63 | 30,818 | 14,278 | 1,160 | 14,368 | 1,537 | .. | 62,161 | 22,759 |
| 1963-64(b) | 32,855 | 14,527 | 1,122 | 14,817 | 1,466 | 1 | 64,788 | 24,652 |
| 1964-65 | 33,959 | 14,296 | 1,080 | 14,480 | 1,354 | 9 | 65,178 | 25,685 |
| 1965-66 | 34,403 | 14,396 | 1,070 | 14,716 | 1,299 | 10 | 65,894 | 26,637 |
| 1966-67 | 34,814 | 14,512 | 1,073 | 15,421 | 1,152 | 21 | 66,993 | 31,239 |

(a) Includes dependants of deceased service pensioners. (b) Miscellaneous service pensions were not payable prior to 1963-64.

SERVICE PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC. 1962-63 TO 1966-67 (\$'000)

| Place of payment | 1962-63 | 1963-64 | 1964-65 | 1965-66 | 1966-67 |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| New South Wales(a) | 7,095 | 7,981 | 8,494 | 9,499 | 9,998 |
| Victoria | 4,949 | 5,654 | 5,974 | 6,626 | 6,720 |
| Queensland | 3,362 | 3,823 | 4,048 | 4,477 | 4,715 |
| South Australia(b) | 2,487 | 2,689 | 2,766 | 3,025 | 3,134 |
| Western Australia | 2,927 | 3,177 | 3,320 | 3,571 | 3,612 |
| Tasmania | 837 | 874 | 904 | 964 | 935 |
| Abroad | .. | .. | 2 | 10 | 11 |
| Australia | 21,657 | 24,198 | 25,508 | 28,172 | 29,126 |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.

Medical treatment for ex-servicemen and dependants of ex-servicemen

Medical treatment is provided for all disabilities which have been accepted as due to war service. In addition, and subject to certain conditions, treatment is provided for disabilities not due to war service for: ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen receiving war pensions at or exceeding the maximum general (100 per cent) rate; ex-servicemen who have contracted pulmonary tuberculosis; nurses who served in the 1914-18 war; widows and certain dependants of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service and of deceased T.P.I. pensioners; and service pensioners, including service pensioners of the Boer War.

In-patient treatment for eligible patients is provided at the six Repatriation General Hospitals (one in each State) and eight auxiliary hospitals and sanatoriums as follows: *New South Wales*—Lady Davidson Hospital; *Victoria*—Macleod Hospital and Anzac Hostel; *Queensland*—Kenmore Hospital, Rosemount Hospital and Anzac Hostel; *South Australia*—Biralee Hospital; and *Western Australia*—The Edward Millen Hospital. The Anzac Hostels specialise in the care and treatment of long-term patients.

The total number of available beds for patients in open wards or parts of wards in all these institutions at 30 June 1967 was 4,168, and expenditure amounted to \$25,320,421. In addition, expenditure of \$30,576,677 was incurred on medical services outside these institutions.

Repatriation hospitals and institutions

Details of full-time staff in Repatriation general hospitals and other Repatriation institutions are given in the following table.

**REPATRIATION HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: FULL-TIME STAFF
STATES, 30 JUNE 1967**

| Type of institution | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust. |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| General hospitals— | | | | | | | |
| Medical staff | 114 | 80 | 34 | 22 | 28 | 8 | 286 |
| Nursing staff | 785 | 535 | 286 | 204 | 202 | 55 | 2,067 |
| Other staff | 1,119 | 788 | 489 | 306 | 433 | 106 | 3,241 |
| <i>Total, general hospitals</i> | <i>2,018</i> | <i>1,403</i> | <i>809</i> | <i>532</i> | <i>663</i> | <i>169</i> | <i>5,594</i> |
| Other in-patient institutions(a) | 210 | 105 | 172 | 37 | 35 | .. | 559 |
| Out-patient clinics(a) | 169 | 77 | 22 | 33 | 25 | .. | 326 |
| Limb and appliance centres(a) | 73 | 68 | 28 | 21 | 14 | 11 | 215 |
| Grand total | 2,470 | 1,653 | 1,031 | 623 | 737 | 180 | 6,694 |

(a) Total staff.

The following table gives details of in-patients treated at Repatriation general hospitals and other Repatriation institutions in each State. The figures shown refer to cases, e.g. a person who is admitted to hospital twice during a year is counted twice.

**REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: IN-PATIENTS
TREATED, STATES, 1966-67**

| | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust. |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS | | | | | | | |
| In-patients at beginning of year | 1,263 | 730 | 482 | 308 | 391 | 116 | 3,290 |
| Admissions and re-admissions during year | 18,190 | 11,283 | 8,943 | 4,792 | 5,657 | 1,774 | 50,639 |
| <i>Total in-patients treated</i> | <i>19,453</i> | <i>12,013</i> | <i>9,425</i> | <i>5,100</i> | <i>6,048</i> | <i>1,890</i> | <i>53,929</i> |
| Discharges | 17,144 | 10,414 | 8,541 | 4,453 | 5,335 | 1,686 | 47,573 |
| Deaths | 1,002 | 906 | 411 | 361 | 345 | 103 | 3,128 |
| In-patients at end of year | 1,307 | 693 | 473 | 286 | 368 | 101 | 3,228 |
| Average daily number resident | 1,141 | 661 | 447 | 282 | 383 | 101 | 3,015 |
| OTHER REPATRIATION INSTITUTIONS | | | | | | | |
| In-patients at beginning of year | 195 | 103 | 123 | 36 | 27 | .. | 484 |
| Admissions and re-admissions during year | 1,481 | 312 | 933 | 117 | 198 | .. | 3,041 |
| <i>Total in-patients treated</i> | <i>1,676</i> | <i>415</i> | <i>1,056</i> | <i>153</i> | <i>225</i> | <i>..</i> | <i>3,525</i> |
| Discharges | 1,445 | 297 | 918 | 120 | 204 | .. | 2,984 |
| Deaths | 47 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 2 | .. | 65 |
| In-patients at end of year | 184 | 112 | 130 | 31 | 19 | .. | 476 |
| Average daily number resident | 195 | 108 | 129 | 35 | 24 | .. | 491 |

In addition to the Repatriation institutions, eligible patients may be treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals and nursing homes at Repatriation expense. During 1966-67, 13,785 Repatriation in-patients were accommodated and treated in hospitals and 718 in nursing homes.

Repatriation psychiatric patients requiring custodial care are, by agreement with the State Governments, accommodated at the expense of the Repatriation Department in separate wings of psychiatric hospitals administered by the State authorities. At 30 June 1967 there were 848 Repatriation patients in these hospitals.

Out-patient treatment is provided throughout the Commonwealth at Repatriation hospitals and clinics and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1966-67, 574,191 out-patients were treated at Repatriation institutions, and visits to or by local medical officers totalled 2,695,306.

General Repatriation benefits and miscellaneous

Other Repatriation Department activities

The activities of the Department in respect of general benefits for the welfare of ex-servicemen and dependants concern mainly education and training of children under the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme (*see* pages 103-5), medical benefits for widows and children of deceased ex-servicemen and for widowed mothers of deceased unmarried ex-servicemen, funeral expenses for certain classes of ex-servicemen and dependants, and allowances to certain classes of dependants.

These and new benefits designed for the re-establishment of servicemen and servicewomen after discharge were extended and made available, by legislation passed in June 1940, to servicemen and servicewomen engaged in the 1939-45 War, and in November 1950 and May 1963 to those engaged in the Korea and Malaya operations and to those serving in such other areas as may be prescribed under the *Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) Act* 1962-1966, respectively. The re-establishment benefits generally administered by the Repatriation Commission are: payment of re-employment allowance while awaiting employment; provision of tools of trade and equipment where they are necessary to employment; transportation expenses to meet the cost of fares and removal of household belongings where an ex-serviceman takes up training, employment, or a business, or settles on the land; supplements to wages of apprentices whose apprenticeships were interrupted by war service; re-establishment loans to enable ex-servicemen and widows to establish themselves in business, practices or occupations, including (until the Division of War Service Land Settlement began operations early in 1946) agricultural occupations; payment of re-establishment allowances during the early stages of establishment in business; gifts up to \$150 for furniture to ex-servicemen who are blind or totally and permanently incapacitated, also to widows with children under sixteen years of age; and free passages to Australia for wives, widows and children of ex-servicemen who married abroad (and passages outward from Australia in certain cases of ex-servicemen and dependants).

In 1949 the Department took over the functions of the Re-establishment Division of the former Department of Post-War Reconstruction and became responsible for the co-ordination of all matters relating to training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. This scheme is now concluded, the prescribed time limits for eligibility having expired on 30 June 1950. Re-establishment of the more seriously disabled, where ordinary training is not sufficient, continues to be a function of the Department, and special means have to be found to overcome each problem.

Expenditure in 1966-67 on general Repatriation benefits for all wars was \$3,942,000, comprising: Soldiers' Children Education Scheme, \$2,462,000; recreation transport allowance, \$623,000; and other benefits \$857,000. In addition, \$28,000 was expended by other Commonwealth authorities on Repatriation employment and vocational training.

Expenditure by the Repatriation Department, 1966-67

The net expenditure by the Department for the year ended 30 June 1967 was \$265,344,010 distributed as follows.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| | \$'000 |
| Pensions, allowances and other benefits | 194,783 |
| Medical treatment | 55,897 |
| Administration | 11,543 |
| Works, rent and maintenance | 3,120 |
| Total | 265,344 |

Soldiers' Children Education Scheme

The Soldiers' Children Education Scheme was established in 1921 and operates with the assistance of the voluntary Education Boards in each State. These Boards consist of representatives of government and non-government education authorities and of ex-service and other organisations which have a general interest in the welfare of the children of ex-servicemen. The objects of the Scheme are to assist and encourage eligible children in acquiring a standard of education compatible with their aptitude and ability, and to prepare them to enter an agricultural, commercial, professional, or industrial calling of their own choice.

Eligible children. Eligible children are children of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service; or of ex-servicemen who died from causes not due to war service but who were receiving at the date of death a war pension at a special rate for blindness, total and permanent incapacity, pulmonary tuberculosis, or amputation of two or more limbs; or of ex-servicemen who, as a result of war service, are blinded, totally and permanently incapacitated, or receiving the special rate pension for pulmonary tuberculosis and are likely to receive such pension for a period of at least three years.

General benefits. From the commencement of primary education up to twelve years, school requisites and fares are provided. An education allowance is also payable for a child from commencement of secondary education or from the age of twelve years, whichever is the earlier, while the child is undertaking primary or secondary education. Further assistance beyond, or parallel with, the later years of secondary education is provided where an approved beneficiary continues with a course of specialised education or training necessary for a career. Specialised education covers a wide range and may include: professional degree or diploma courses at universities and technical colleges; theological training; cadet and pupilage training, i.e. training combined with employment, such as nursing, pharmacy and journalism; industrial, including apprenticeship training, and other courses of trade and business training approved by an Education Board; and agricultural training at an agricultural college. At this stage of training, in addition to the education allowance, fees are paid and text books, essential equipment and other minor benefits are provided.

All education allowances are subject to an allowed income limit test, i.e. the amount of education allowance payable depends on the amount of income a child receives over the allowed limit. The child's income for the purpose of determining the allowance payable means earnings from employment and other earnings from personal exertion and such portion of a scholarship, bursary or grant as the Education Board determines to be income. Income does not include war or service pensions paid for the child or any similar payment, income the child receives from private means, or income from casual employment during the entire period of a school or university vacation where the student is to continue as a full-time student under the scheme after the vacation. The parent's income does not affect the child's allowance. The scale of maximum allowances payable to eligible children at various stages of education is as follows.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME
WEEKLY RATES OF ALLOWANCES, JANUARY 1968
(**\$**)

| <i>Type of training</i> | <i>Living at home</i> | <i>Living away from home</i> |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>At school—</i> | | |
| Aged 12 and under 14 years | 1.90 | 6.33 |
| Aged 14 " " 16 years | 2.88 | 6.33 |
| Aged 16 " " 18 years | 6.33 | 9.78 |
| Professional (university, etc.) | 10.75 | 17.40 |
| Agricultural | . . | 3.18 |
| Industrial (apprenticeship, etc.) | 2.30 | 4.60 |

The following tables show the costs of education under the scheme for the year ended 30 June 1967 and the number of children in receipt of benefit at 30 June 1967.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: EXPENDITURE, 1966-67
(**\$'000**)

| | <i>N.S.W.</i> (<i>a</i>) | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> (<i>b</i>) | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Aust.</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Cost of education of beneficiaries—</i> | | | | | | | |
| Under 12 years of age | 7 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 29 |
| 12 years of age and over | 814 | 673 | 442 | 233 | 164 | 95 | 2,421 |
| Total expenditure | 821 | 681 | 450 | 236 | 165 | 97 | (c)2,450 |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory of \$12,000.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Excludes overseas expenditure

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS(a)
AT 30 JUNE 1967

| <i>Type of training</i> | <i>N.S.W. (b)</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A. (c)</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Abroad</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| At school— | | | | | | | | |
| Aged under 14 years(d) | 883 | 644 | 459 | 192 | 171 | 151 | 9 | 2,509 |
| Aged 14 and under 16 years | 1,008 | 734 | 518 | 256 | 242 | 173 | 16 | 2,947 |
| Aged 16 and under 18 years | 738 | 545 | 297 | 181 | 113 | 75 | 17 | 1,966 |
| <i>Total at school</i> | <i>2,629</i> | <i>1,923</i> | <i>1,274</i> | <i>629</i> | <i>526</i> | <i>399</i> | <i>42</i> | <i>7,422</i> |
| Professional | 317 | 342 | 202 | 126 | 71 | 41 | 11 | 1,110 |
| Agricultural | 6 | 11 | 12 | .. | 8 | .. | .. | 37 |
| Industrial | 6 | 7 | .. | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | 17 |
| Grand total | 2,958 | 2,283 | 1,488 | 757 | 607 | 440 | 53 | 8,586 |

(a) Refers only to children in receipt of an education allowance. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) From 12 years of age or the commencement of secondary education, whichever is the earlier.

Settlement of returned service personnel on the land

Reference to the settlement of returned service personnel on the land will be found in the chapters Public Finance and Rural Industry.

Re-establishment benefits for national servicemen

Subject to prescribed conditions, special re-establishment benefits are provided for national servicemen under the *Defence (Re-establishment) Act 1965–1967*. They apply to all national servicemen whether or not they have served on 'special service' and ensure that servicemen will not be at a disadvantage on their return to civil life. The scheme includes appropriate full or part-time training as a supplement to skills acquired in the Army, refresher training for specialists and training for those who, for various reasons, may not be able to return to their former employment. The assistance includes payment of tuition fees, other associated fees and fares, and provision of books and equipment as appropriate. A training allowance is also provided for trainees undertaking full-time studies.

Re-establishment loans may be granted, subject to certain conditions, to those national servicemen who, prior to call-up, were engaged in professional practice, business, or agricultural occupations, or who, because of their call-up, were prevented from engaging in these occupations, and who are in need of financial assistance for their re-establishment in civil life.

The maximum amounts of the loans are business and professional \$3,000, agricultural \$6,000.

The Services Canteens Trust Fund

The Services Canteens Trust Fund was established under the *Services Trust Funds Act 1947*. Its funds are derived from the assets and profits of wartime services canteens, mess and regimental funds of disbanded units, and several other sources.

The total amount transferred to the Fund to 31 December 1967 was \$11,053,986. The Act prescribed that, of this, \$5 million and such further amounts as the trustees of the Fund might from time to time decide, should be devoted to the provision of education facilities for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen, and that the balance of the Fund should be used to provide relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants in necessitous circumstances.

The Fund is administered by eleven honorary trustees appointed by the Governor-General. The trustees have power to determine the persons or groups of persons to benefit from the Fund and the extent of the benefits to be granted within the provisions of the Act, and to appoint regional committees to assist with the administration. Members of regional committees are all persons who served in the 1939–45 War or are widows of men who served during the war. They serve in an honorary capacity.

Assistance from the Fund

Persons eligible for assistance from the Fund are those who, between 3 September 1939 and 30 June 1947, served in the Australian Naval, Military or Air Forces, including members of the canteens staff of any ship of the Royal Australian Navy, persons duly accredited to any part of the

Defence Forces who served in an official capacity on full-time paid duty, and their dependants. The trustees have introduced schemes for providing welfare relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are eligible for benefits, and for their dependants; benefits for children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from serious and incapacitating afflictions; and education benefits for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen. From its inauguration in 1947 the Fund is to be available for forty years for welfare relief and for thirty years for educational benefits.

Welfare relief. The trustees have prescribed a policy for welfare relief which makes assistance available only to those who are in genuine distress from which they cannot extricate themselves by their own efforts. To 31 December 1967, \$3,225,791 has been granted as welfare relief from the Fund \$1,963,640 to ex-servicemen and their dependants, and \$1,262,151 to widows and orphans. The amount granted during 1967 was \$173,929. A total of 34,322 ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and 17,746 widows and orphans were granted welfare assistance from the Fund to 31 December 1967.

Assistance under Afflicted Children's Scheme. The Fund assists dependent children suffering from afflictions which permanently disable or seriously retard their progress or prevent the enjoyment of normal health and strength, and who face a prospect of dependence on others for all or part of their lives. The extent to which assistance will be granted in a particular case depends largely on the nature of the child's affliction, the facilities available, the family circumstances, and the funds that can be made available. Up to 31 December 1967, 2,623 afflicted children had been assisted under the Afflicted Children's Scheme, involving an expenditure of \$301,702. The amount granted during 1967 was \$11,866. The number of new children assisted in 1967 was 47.

Educational Assistance Scheme. Educational assistance is restricted to children who are fifteen years of age and over, thirteen years and over where there are exceptional circumstances, and twelve years in the case of orphans. The object is to assist eligible children to obtain the highest education within their capacity. Assistance is in the form of awards ranging up to \$400 a year depending on the nature of the course undertaken and the family circumstances. These awards are granted chiefly for children at secondary education level, but are also available for other types of education. They are designed to cover, or contribute towards, the cost of essential books, fees in cases where government school courses are not available, fares between the child's home and school, essential equipment and material, uniforms in certain cases, and maintenance for the child while at school. Higher training awards are provided for selected students for post-graduate study, in Australia or overseas, in the ancillary services to medicine, welfare and science, and also for selected craftsmen to gain experience in their trade overseas. One post-graduate scholarship is provided each year for study overseas, valued at \$2,500 per annum for up to three years.

The number of children assisted under the educational assistance scheme to 31 December 1967 was 61,400, and the expenditure on educational awards, post-graduate scholarships and higher training awards to 31 December 1967 was \$6,895,831. The number granted in 1967 was 7,193 at a value of \$629,193.

Total assistance. The total assistance granted under the three schemes during 1967 was \$814,988 and from the inception of the Fund to 31 December 1967 totalled \$10,423,324.