

Registrar of Pensions. If applications for the forms reach sub-offices, Postmasters must obtain what is required from their chief office. They must on no account refuse to supply, but should assist applicants as far as possible.

The instructions contained in the footnote of the form of declaration attached to advices for war-pension payments must be strictly observed by paying officers. The declaration must be obtained before payment is made, and must not be detached from the advice. On no account is payment to be effected if the payee amends the word "in-patient" to "out-patient," or gives any indication that the ex-soldier is not an in-patient when application is made for payment of the instalment. The rate of pension is reduced from the date of discharge from hospital.

908. *Miners' Pension Payments.*—With the necessary modifications the foregoing rules relating to old-age pension payments apply to the payment of miners' pensions granted under the Miner's Phthisis Act, 1915. Particulars of the vouchers for such payments must be entered on the statement (Old-age 13A), suitably amended. The advice is similar to the other classes of pension advices, but is printed on buff-coloured paper. Unclaimed instalment advices of a miner's pension must be entered on the form provided for unclaimed old-age pension advices (13B). Credit is to be claimed by Chief Postmasters in the Post Office Account under the heading "Miscellaneous Pension Payments." (See Rule 887).

909. *Epidemic and Police Officers' Widows' Pension Payments.*—With the necessary modifications the foregoing rules relating to old-age pensions apply to the payment of epidemic pensions and pensions to widows of Police officers. Particulars of the vouchers for epidemic pension payments must be entered on the statement form Widows 13A, and those for Police officers on form War Pensions 13A. Credit is to be claimed by Postmasters as a remittance to the chief office, and by Chief Postmasters under the heading "Miscellaneous Pension Payments," on the Post Office Account. (See Rule 887.) Unclaimed instalment advices of these pensions must be entered on the form provided for unclaimed old-age pension advices (form 13B).

IMPERIAL PENSIONS.

910. *Imperial Pensions paid.*—All Imperial pensions outside Wellington are paid through the Post Office.

Generally, the rules governing miscellaneous payments will apply, but the following special instructions must be carefully observed.

General.

911. In all cases where the pensions are entered on "List of Pensioners," Army Form N. 1537, and the pensioners' signatures required thereon, an endeavour should be made to pay as many as possible before the 15th of the month, on which date the total amount paid on the list must be taken credit for as "Imperial Pensions paid." If the payments are all made before the 15th of the month, credit should be claimed on the day on which the last payment on the list is effected. Where the pensioner can more conveniently be paid at a money-order office in charge of a permanent Postmaster, his receipt may be taken on Army Form O. 1697 in duplicate, the forms attached to N. 1537, and the words "Receipt attached" written in the column "Signature." A note of the name, pension, and other particulars should be made on copies of O. 1697 for those pensioners not paid by the 15th of each month, and payment made thereon if applied for during the first two months of the quarter. No payment should be made