

APPENDIX No. 3

(7)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MINISTER'S OFFICE.

OTTAWA, April 28, 1919.

The Honourable N. W. ROWELL,
President of the Privy Council,
Ottawa.

DEAR MR. ROWELL,—

I enclose you herewith, for your information, copy of a letter I have received this morning from the Secretary-Treasurer of the Imperial Veterans in Canada.

Would it not be a good idea to refer this matter to the Pensions Committee of the House for consideration and report? (Letter follows.)

Yours truly,

T. A. CRERAR.

IMPERIAL VETERANS IN CANADA.

BOYD BUILDING, WINNIPEG, MAN.,

April 23, 1919.

HON. T. A. CRERAR, M.P.,
Marquette, Man.

DEAR SIR,—In the course of a conversation that I have had with Major G. V. Andrews, he gave me to understand that it had been stated in the Committee of the House that there were only 2,700 Imperial men who left Canada for overseas.

This Association is very much afraid that therefore there is a danger in any legislation put before the House to assist the Imperial men former residents of Canada, that the men who volunteered and joined here, also those who paid their own passage from Canada for various reasons, sacrificing their all, may be neglected if care is not taken in drafting any bill or Order in Council.

We wish to impress upon you that Canada owes a duty to the Imperial men who enlisted and volunteered from Canada into Imperial units, even greater than the boys who left with Canadian units for this reason. The Imperial men while overseas received only 25c. a day, whereas the Canadian received \$1.10 a day, the Imperials wives were left on a pittance as given by the Imperial Government of say \$4.75 a week to keep the wife and child in their husband's absence overseas.

We desire you as representative for Manitoba in the Dominion House to realize that this Association can give you evidence of 40,000 Imperial men returned or returning to Canada. They demand recognition and equal treatment with their Canadian comrades in Pensions, War Gratuities, and also in recurrence of sickness pay while in hospital. Also that the Canadian Overseas button be issued to Imperial men who were citizens of Canada prior to joining the Imperial service.

This Association will watch your work in the Dominion House and will carefully see what results accrue.

Trusting we can be assured of your co-operation and on our part we will be pleased to furnish you with any particulars you desire.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) H. B. WILLING,
Secretary-Treasurer.