

APPENDIX No. 4

under which tuberculous men labour. If you could follow up their remarks and give us your views on the various points, I think that would meet the wishes of the Committee?—A. Perhaps I may discuss these in order.

“No. 1.—That the total disability pension for a single man should be \$100 per month with allowances for dependents, on the present scale.”

As far as that is concerned, I feel that is not a question for a physician to discuss. It is rather an economic question, other than this, that I think the Committee should recognize that the tuberculous patient requires something more than the man who is receiving a total disability pension from other causes. Take for example the man who has total disability from loss of limbs. His disability is one due to the loss of function of organs and inability to do other than perhaps special work. The man who is tuberculous, is not only suffering from loss of function of organs, but practically no patient leaves a sanatorium cured. He not only has his disability, but he must continue therapeutic treatment at home. The man who has finished treatment for tuberculosis is subject to a relapse of his disease during the next five years particularly. The probability of a relapse lessens as the years go by. During this period, after leaving the sanatorium, his holding of satisfactory condition, and his improving on that condition, are dependent upon his carrying on therapeutic work at home. To maintain his satisfactory condition, and to get better, he requires special, good food; he requires good sanitary housing, and in the winter living out of doors. He has to provide himself with extra clothing. Now, these are things that, though desirable for other men, are not essential to the maintenance of a satisfactory condition, and not essential to their further treatment.

My Mr. Redman:

Q. Do you not think that similar conditions would be essential in other total disability cases; heart cases, for instance?—A. I think not, so far as sanitary housing is concerned. It becomes purely a mechanical condition. There should be light work, and the man must avoid strain, but the sanitary housing is not essential.

Q. Are there other conditions which a man might have in regard to which you would give the same treatment?—A. I would include chronic bronchitis, asthma, bronchiectasis, and pleurisy.

By Mr. Peck:

Q. How do you define a total disability case?—A. Tuberculosis case?

Q. Yes, what state would he be in?—A. I think one would define that entirely on the basis of ability to work, without detriment to his physical condition.

By Mr. McGibbon:

Q. The point in these recommendations, as I understand them, is this: they request that the total disability pension be increased from six months to one year or two years. What would your opinion be on that?—A. That is No. 2, and I will deal with that later.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. When you speak of the five year period, do you mean that that man, in order to improve his condition, should not work at all during the five years?—A. Not at all, I do not mean that. Of course we can lay down no absolute rule, because each case has to be considered as an entity; and whereas some men are able to work six hours a day, the vast majority have only reached the point that in the sanatorium they are able to take three or four hours' work at a light occupation in the workshop.

Q. But for the five years they would have to follow out their treatment, perfect food and so on?—A. Yes, and good sanitation, living in the open or sleeping in the open air or in a room with the windows thrown open, practically an open-air scheme.

[Dr. J. H. Elliott.]