

APPENDIX No. 6

but the President will propose me at the next meeting." He was proposed and accepted a week ago to-morrow morning and he turned up at the Chest Clinic for a re-examination walking with a cane across the floor. I said, "When did you get your leg?" "Yesterday, sister." "Well, I said, "Do you think you are not going at it rather strenuously for the second day," knowing as I did what a sore stump means. He said, "No, I have got an awfully good stump, you know," and under my breath I said, "I guess you have got just as good grit." He is one of the boys who marched up to-day from the Chateau Laurier to the House to place a wreath on Colonel Baker's memorial, and he walked up without a cane in front of me, one week on an artificial limb. He had lain for a number of years on a hospital cot until finally the doctors told him that re-amputation must be performed. He kept his leg until he could not possibly keep it any longer, and now that he has a new one he is doing his very utmost, but the spirit that made him not want to come to Ottawa on crutches is the spirit that "caught me."

The CHAIRMAN: We have with us Mr. Lyons, a blinded man from whom we would be very glad to hear, I am sure.

Mr. LYONS: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I feel that there is nothing I could say which would help us, after listening to the propositions put forward by the previous speakers.

I am here as a representative of the men who have suffered total loss of vision owing to participation in the recent Great War. The problems confronting the men who have lost their sight are great. I do not think if I were to step up here to-day and ask for preferential treatment that I would be establishing a precedent inasmuch as the Canadian Government established that precedent in favour of the blinded soldiers by opening an office in this city some four or five years ago under the care of one of the blinded soldiers, Captain Baker, whose office was on Victoria Street. I would ask you to consider from every angle the propositions put forward by Miss Jaffray, and my comrades Myers and Dobbs. I would ask you to look at it from our viewpoint. We are not asking for anything to which we are not entitled. We come down here asking that the present bonus of \$600, plus the high cost of living bonus of \$300 be made permanent. I would point out to the members of this Committee that although the high cost of living may come down we have nothing at the present time to suggest that it will, but if it should come down in the future, I wish to point out that the high cost of being a blinded soldier will never come down. The fact that we have lost our sight is something we will have to pay for for the rest of our lives. We are not suffering any eight hour a day disability. It is going on from day to day, from week to week, from month to month, and from year to year and will be with us to the day we die, and as I said I hope the Committee will give their serious consideration to these proposals. We are not asking you for something that is impracticable, not asking you to increase your expenditures one cent; we are asking you to make permanent what you are paying to us to-day as total disability cases, that the present pension of \$600 plus the high cost of living bonus be made permanent. I thank you on behalf of the members of our association who are suffering from total loss of vision.

The CHAIRMAN: I would ask Mr. Lambert, President of the Dominion Amputations Association to speak.

Mr. LAMBERT: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen: I am a busy man in the organization and have been sitting in the chair these days guiding the deliberations and I am almost at the end of my rope physically. I am glad to let my understudies place these matters before you, because we have some brilliant people with us, men who are not only good fighters, but good thinkers, and to hear them deliberate on these great questions, and to sit still and listen