

APPENDIX No. 2

question was raised in your mind as to the proper principle you should apply in carrying out the regulations.—A. Yes.

Q. And that upon making inquiries of the Chairman of the Pensions Board and the Prime Minister, you were sent to Mr. Gisborne, the Parliamentary Counsel, to advise as to what should be the proper interpretation?—A. Yes. To carry out the spirit of the instructions and the committee's intentions.

Q. And that you followed his advice in the course you took? Is that your testimony?—A. Yes. Where the thing was not definite we endeavoured to establish precedent and lay down a policy which would be in the spirit of the Order in Council. You will remember I have referred to this matter before in my evidence, in which I have stated the same thing about aggravation. If I had a copy of the evidence I would quote it to you.

Witness retired.

Lt.-Col. George R. Philp sworn.

By the Chairman:

Q. What is your position?—A. One of the Medical Advisers of the Board of Pension Commissioners.

Q. How long have you been practising your profession?—A. Since 1909.

Q. What positions have you held since the outbreak of the war?—A. Surgeon with No. 2 Canadian General Hospital, Medical Officer with No. 2 Canadian Field Ambulance, Medical Officer with First Divisional Ammunition Column, Second in Command of No. 5 Canadian Field Ambulance, and in command of No. 10 Canadian Field Ambulance all during last three years.

Q. Then you served three years at the front?—A. I have served practically three years—33 months.

Q. Passing from one position to another, until you became the officer in charge of the ambulance you have mentioned?—A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been on the Board of Pension Commissioners—A. Since October, 1917.

Q. I see from the record here in Col. Labatt's case that you were the officer who made the examination?—A. Yes. In the ordinary course of routine business the file came to me.

Q. Here is a letter which has been written to me as Chairman of this Committee.—A. Yes, sir. I have read the letter.

Q. Was any influence of any kind brought to bear upon you in connection with the examination of Col. Labatt?—A. None whatever.

Q. Was it dealt with simply in the ordinary course of business?—A. In the ordinary routine course of business.

Q. To whom do you report, or do you report?—A. Col. Belton is the chief medical adviser.

Q. What was the date upon which the pension was granted?—A. On 15th November last I wrote my recommendation for pension.

Q. What is the routine in dealing with such cases?—A. The files come to the several medical advisers and the majority of the cases are quite clear. They are examined. A précis is made of that and put on our form 800 for further re-examination, six months or a year later as we may advise, and then it passes through. We make the recommendation for a certain percentage disability according to tables of disability which we have, and upon which our instructions are to act. In any case of possible debate or uncertainty as to whether it is a 30, 35 or 40 per cent disability, or more or less, it is our routine to take up the case with one of our co-medical officers and talk it over with him, and in many cases we get him to initial

[Lieut.-Col. George Philp.]