

APPENDIX No. 2

of from one million and a half to two million dollars and that the cost of repatriating those who now desire to return to Canada will be much less than this sum including the expenditures already made.

Certain of the men who took their discharges in England have been returned to Canada and also others who went back to England after the Armistice have been similarly returned to Canada.

Between 1st June, 1920, and 31st December, 1921, 2,713 applications for repatriation were received. Of this number 1,787 have taken their discharge in England and 926 have returned from Canada and were unable to secure work.

The Committee in considering further action by the Government in this connection has been bound to take into consideration certain facts, in particular—that the men who took their discharges in England could not foresee the abnormal industrial conditions which followed the war. It is clearly shown that those who are now asking assistance are doing so not as a matter of right but are appealing to the Government to be generous and give them another chance to re-establish themselves in the country for which they fought.

It is of course to be considered that unemployment is still marked in Canada but it is not thought that the addition of the number of men now desiring to return would make any material difference. In addition these men having served in the forces should make the most desirable type of citizens on account of being acquainted with Canadian conditions.

It is indicated that the number of men with dependents who might request repatriation would be about 5,500.

The Committee has considered the whole situation and is of opinion that provision should be made to repatriate as quickly as possible the most deserving cases among those ex-members of the forces who took their discharges in England, together with their dependents, providing they and their dependents desire repatriation and reach a definite decision to that effect before some early date to be fixed by Order in Council. While it is admitted that the sum necessary for the purpose may be large it is considered that the money, in view of the above reasons and for other reasons also, would be wisely expended. Estimated liability \$150,000.

The foregoing opinion and recommendation of this Committee is subject to regulations to be drawn up by the D.S.C.R. and other departments of the Government concerned.

As regards relief to distressed Canadians in the United Kingdom, noted sums have already been provided. These sums are now exhausted. Further relief is undoubtedly required and it is therefore recommended that the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated for that purpose.

Section 13: As regards making payments at par of exchange.

Two questions arise in this regard—the first is—as to the payment of pension to Imperial pensioners resident in Canada at par rate of exchange—and the second—as regards payment at par of exchange also to Canadians resident in England in receipt of pension, etc., and their dependents, and also in respect of moneys brought back from England as set forth below.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance asked the Committee to decide whether the practice presently in force in this regard should be continued or discontinued.

Previous Parliamentary Committees have given considerable study to this matter.

The procedure at present in force deals with:

1. The cashing of all sterling drafts, official cheques, letters and cable transfers, British Money Orders and British currency that represent pay, allowances, pensions and gratuities of former members of the C.E.F. including their dependents; and
2. Similar privileges in respect of former members of the Imperial Forces who were domiciled in Canada on the 4th August, 1914.