

men have received on service. It will be unfair, it will be a disgrace, to say to any of those men: "Oh, yes, you were injured, you have a great disability, but you must have had some of that disability before you went overseas with Colonel Bradbury." I am speaking now in the interest of the men of all battalions. As far as I am personally concerned, I do not care a fig for the pension. I say to the Government from my place in this House that if they desire to change the law and make it impossible for the colonel of a battalion who is a member of Parliament or a Senator to participate in a pension and wish to penalize me, do so. I will acquiesce; there will be no protest from me; and they can make the law retroactive if they wish.

As to the pension itself, as I stated a moment ago, it is only a six-months pension. I have never received one dollar of it. A cheque for \$69 and some cents was indeed sent to me, but the cheque is lying in my desk at home. The papers came to me wrongly made out—made out to "Lieut. Bradbury." I returned them unsigned, and I have never heard another word from the authorities since.

I want to say a word to show that there was no justification for the position Colonel Belton has taken. There was an attempt made in the committee that sat in the other House to show that I thought there was some personal motive in the action of the board that boarded me first. I want to say that I did not know one of the gentlemen who boarded me; I never spoke to one of them in my life before that time. They could have had nothing against me, and I could have had nothing against them. So the inference that it has been tried to create, that I refused to be boarded by them again, is absolutely unfounded and untrue. I had already been boarded by this board two or three weeks before, and when I made my protest against the finding I did it, not on my own account, because I do not care about the pension, but because I was thinking of the men I had taken overseas. It is not reasonable to suppose that an appeal from that board would mean an examination by the same board again, but that is the inference that is sought to be created. There was no suggestion of that kind made. Dr. Belton did suggest that I should be boarded by consulting physicians. Instead of me demanding another board, as stated in the Citizen, Dr. Belton states in his evidence that, instead of accepting the suggestion he had made, I said that I would

take the matter into consideration. That is exactly what happened. Two days after I made the statement that I would take it into consideration I received a telephone message from the board asking me to go before another board, and stating that I might be boarded at any place I liked, and suggesting Toronto. I said that Toronto was a considerable distance to go, and they said, "How would Montreal do?" I said, "If you want me to be boarded again, I will go to Montreal." Two days after that I received the following wire from the Militia authorities in Montreal:

Montreal, April 20.

Lt. Col. George Bradbury,
The Senate, Ottawa.

Board of Pension Commissioners desire you to report Montreal district office, 304 Drummond Building, either April 26th or May 6th, after 3 o'clock, in order to be medically boarded. If not convenient wire this office stating date suitable.

This was an order from the Militia authorities that I report. I carried out the order and did report there. I had never in my life seen the gentlemen who boarded me in Montreal, and never had any correspondence with them. When they boarded me they found my disability greater than it had been found by the Ottawa board, and, more than that, they found that it was entirely due to the service I had rendered to my country with my battalion. That is the point that I want to establish clearly—that my disability was due to service, and that when men are accepted by the Government as fit men, the rank and file, the men fighting in the trenches, I do not want it to be said by members of my battalion when they return home that I, knowing the position the board was taking, was silent on this question. This is a very vital question to these men. They were accepted as fit, and the people of this country expect the Government to take care of those men when they come back, and to give them the pension voted by both Houses, and not to adopt cheese-paring methods, and say: "Yes, you are a very sick man, you have a disability of 75 or 80 per cent, but you must have had some of it before you joined your battalion." That is a cruel and unfair position to take, and one that the people will not stand for.

There is another impression which has been created that I desire to correct. I have noticed that certain senators and others have been under the impression that I, through my position as a Senator, had secured a kind of private board at Montreal and had my disability raised and my posi-