

*By the Acting Chairman:*

Q. You say that these men come to you and complain?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why not write direct to the office here in Ottawa? For instance, if they wrote to the S.C.R., which has charge of vocational training, Mr. Parkinson would, I am sure, give them immediate attention.—A. I had a very interesting conversation with Mr. Parkinson along that line. He thinks a general request from a body in regard to vocational training would receive attention. The case I have mentioned shows that it is impossible for the men to live decently on the allowance, and there is no other avenue which they can take advantage of.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: If you could give the names and addresses of the men you know of, we as a committee would examine their cases, and see where the fault lies. We would then be in a position to correct any faults, or to recommend correction of any faults that have arisen or that might arise. When you make a general statement that someone in the United States had suffered because he had not been properly attended to, we cannot very well get after that; it is too distant and hard to get at. But if you would leave with the Committee the names and addresses of the men from whom you have received complaints we could investigate them, and I am quite sure that we would be able to overcome any difficulties that have arisen. You would be helping these men very materially if you did that; but if you confine yourself to a general statement, we have not the means of getting at them, and it would be impossible for us to benefit these men very much.

*By Mr. Edwards:*

Q. The gentleman from the Pension Board stated very definitely that there were 3,265 pensioners in the United States. Does he mean by that soldiers, or soldiers and dependents?

Mr. AHERN: Soldiers and dependents.

Mr. EDWARDS: Have you any information as to where these are located? For instance are there a considerable number in New York, Chicago and certain other centres? Would there be a considerable number in a centre where the appointment of one official would make it convenient for the pensioners?

Mr. AHERN: I have not the figures, but I could get them for you.

Mr. COOPER: The Pensions Board surely have these figures here.

*By Mr. Redman:*

Q. Is there any representative at Washington of the S.C.R.?—A. Not so far as we know. Our men have been trying to deal directly with Ottawa on the questions of pensions and vocational training. The British Consul there cannot do anything for us; he is too busy with other work. We have no representatives in Washington, so far as I know. The British Consul in Washington informed us some months ago that if we wished to claim the same treatment as the Imperial men, he would take charge of it, but that he could not interfere with or take action upon matters pertaining to Canadian veterans.

Mr. PECK: I would suggest that the Committee consider whether in great centres like Chicago, New York and Boston, where there is a great number of Canadians, a representative of the Dominion Government should be appointed to consider such questions of re-establishment and give advice to these men on land settlement. I just throw out this suggestion to the Committee, as I think it is worthy of consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: We have a note of that.

WITNESS: In regard to the question asked as to the location of the men, I think I can answer it to a certain degree. I believe that the majority of our pensioners [Mr. Nightingale].