

England. They think these men will be saved for service again, and that is why they keep a lot of men there. The ones that come back to Canada are those that are cases for long treatment. They are not discharged when they arrive here because quite a large number of them will, it is expected, be made eventually fit for further service.

*By Mr. Nickle:*

Q. As a matter of fact it is a rule that a man shall be kept under military discipline to see whether there is any probability of his recovery and becoming in a fit physical condition for further service?—A. I believe so.

*By Mr. Sutherland:*

Q. Has a man the right to come before a medical board at the end of every six months?—A. Not necessarily at the end of six months, a man goes before the medical board and frequently that medical board will say: "Disability, 50 per cent, decreasing," and the man will be given a pension in accordance with the disability which he has at that time. The board makes a prognosis, they say it is probable that in six months' time that man's disability will have decreased 30 per cent, or perhaps it may disappear altogether, and consequently they hold another board. We are trying now to make as many pensions as possible permanent and as quickly as possible, and that is the reason why we do not want to see any treatment cases put on to us at the beginning, right after they are discharged from the Military Forces. We prefer not to pay a pension then, because we know perfectly well that after their treatment they will be better and we shall just have to change the pension again.

Q. It seems quite reasonable to have these men examined again at the end of six months, because there is a reasonable assumption that they will have improved by treatment?—A. He may improve, or he may get worse. If a man is not likely to improve or to get worse, the pension is granted permanently; but if he is likely to improve or get worse, pensions are granted for varying period, for three months, or six months, or up to two years. Frequently, there is a bullet or a piece of shell in the man's leg, and the doctors do not want to touch it, they might want to touch it in a year or two years or again there may be such a condition as a piece of shrapnel working around and getting into a man's lung, in which case there would need to be a further examination.

*By Mr. Nickle:*

Q. The regulations provide that in each case a pension shall be subject to review at the end of a year or a certain stated period, do they not?—A. The Board of Pension Commissioners are just a little bit outside the law in that particular thing. We said that there was absolutely no object in waiting for a year before reviewing a man when we knew that he would be getting better or worse in six months, but on the other hand we saw no object in reviewing a man every year or every six months, when we know his condition is permanent.

Q. I think there should be some definite time at which a man's pension should become permanent?—A. Supposing we make some definite time when a man's pension shall become permanent. Let us say you have a man suffering from tuberculosis, and you make the time two years, and at the end of that time the disease is arrested and the man has practically nothing the matter with him, and gets perhaps a 20 per cent pension—then his pension is permanent. Then six months later he has a return of tuberculosis, you would be obliged to say: "You cannot pay the man a higher pension, because the pension he receives is permanent."

Q. Section 11 of the committee's report, which is section 10 of the first Order in Council, reads: "That a member of such force, on account of disability incurred on active service or aggravated thereby, be pensionable at the following rates for total disability." In section 12 of the present Order in Council, these words: "On account of disability incurred on active service or aggravated thereby" are left out?—A. If you will look at the Order in Council put through, following that report, you will find

[Mr. Kenneth Archibald.]