

the British ministry of pensions. This is a considerable hardship as the ministry compel one to prove a medical history practically for the whole of one's life, except in the case where there is a definite wound. Further, a British veteran on pension, or allowed treatment, may not be admitted to a military hospital without sanction of the British representative at Ottawa, which causes considerable delay.

There are free hospitals in Great Britain, and in Canada there is none. They say that in Great Britain there are many services in connection with sickness and disablement such as free sanatoria, practically free medical attention, and so on. Then they continue:

The British veteran was encouraged in various ways to come to Canada, but the difference in climate, cost of living, and the cash value of his pension was not fully explained to him. In our opinion Canada must share to a certain extent the responsibility for this.

Many British veterans were advised to commute the whole of their service pension, to come to Canada, no consideration being given to the fact that their long years of army service unfitted them to compete in the business world. Canada again must also share the responsibility for this, as advice on these lines was given at Canada House, et cetera.

I have before me a letter—in fact I could quote many—which will substantiate the contention of the ex-imperials in regard to inducements offered to them to come from Great Britain and take up responsibilities in Canada. I received this memorandum this year and the dates will appear as I read it:

By Captain C. M. Stringer

I enlisted in England on August 4, 1914.

In 1926 I went to B.C. House, London, England and saw Mr. McAdam who was secretary to the agent-general for B.C. I asked him if there were any jobs to be had in B.C. He said that the Bank of Commerce had been asked by a farmer for a man at \$5 per month plus board, and he advised me to take it, as it was in Grand Forks, where there was a smelter and sash and door factories. It was a busy town and by having some definite job to go to, I could find something after arrival with more remuneration.

I left my family in England and came to B.C. in June, 1926. When I arrived I found the smelter had been closed eight years and that there were really no industries.

I stayed on the farm till November when the farmer said he could not afford to pay me any more as he was going to lose his farm.

I went to the bank and said, "You got me out here, you must find me a job for the winter." This was done.

In 1927 my wife and two children came out to me. Our lovely home in England was sold. My wife brought several thousand dollars with her at the time.

All this money went and we have suffered since.

My contention is that had I not received glowing pamphlets, which were not true, printed by the B.C. government and reports from Mr. McAdam, I would never have come to Canada.

I had a small pension for two years, after the war, for malaria, but owing to pressure of business, I voluntarily dropped it. I did not commute it.

Since 1924 I have been trying to get it back, but as I cannot show positive of malaria parasite in my blood, the authorities will not give a board.

That is only one of many instances that can be cited, one of many communications that can be quoted with regard to the inducements given to ex-imperials in the old land to come and settle in Canada. However, to proceed with extracts from the ex-imperials' brief:

Many British veterans who had pensions when they came to Canada, and who would still be eligible for pensions if Canadian veterans, lost their pensions within two years or so of arrival in Canada. Further, the British ministry does not pay any pension for injury et cetera that is less than 20 per cent, thus debarring many from the benefits of the S.C.R. relief. A very great many of these veterans are now charges on Canada in various ways, such as relief, hospitals, et cetera. This is of course entirely up to Great Britain, although we consider that Canada should have made some arrangements with the government of Great Britain when she accepted these men, so that when their disabilities bore too heavily on them, they should not have been an entire charge on Canada. . . .

The British government actively assist in sending immigrants to Canada, and where it is necessary, or to the advantage of the veteran, the British government should participate in the cost of repatriation. In this connection the B.C. government in conjunction with local authorities have shown the most commendable spirit, in that they repatriate married families on relief, where the veteran can produce a certificate of employment in the country of his origin. The Canadian government have no such scheme, so that a man living in B.C. and drawing S.C.R. relief, cannot be repatriated under the aforementioned scheme. This works a great hardship on the small pensioner. . . .

In the case of "special campaign pensions," the income of the recipient is taken into account, and in applying for such a pension one has to submit for the relief office, a statement of the amount of relief in cash or kind received during the past year. Only a royal commission could settle this question between the two governments. . . .

With regard to S.C.R. relief, the veteran not being able to see his documents as he must have, or have had a disability pension of 5 per cent. In some cases where a final award has been made, the amount of the remaining disability is stated, but in most cases it is not. . . .

In the foregoing we are being reasonable as we are not even asking for the same treatment as the Canadian veteran as far as pensions are concerned, but we do ask for the same treatment as the Canadian veteran in the war veteran's allowance, S.C.R. relief, and et cetera, as we consider these to be social services as distinct from pensions. . . .