

APPENDIX No. 4

foreigners, and so we do not get any help from the American Government at all, and these men look with envious eyes to Ottawa in the hope that here they will make things more comfortable for them. As a veteran of the great war, I do not intend to enlarge upon the war. I was one of the first in it and what I learned then I now try to put into effect.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Have the members any questions to ask of Mr. Nightingale?

Mr. BRIEN: Is it the rule or the exception that patients have to lie for five or six months in the hospital before they got any pay or allowance?

WITNESS: The law reads that way. The American authorities will take up a case with the Canadian authorities providing the patient is in hospital suffering from injuries or wounds received on service; but when we go to the Red Cross or to the Bureau of Foreign Insurance and ask why the delay and tell them of the poverty of the family, they say something is the matter at Ottawa. They blame it on this end.

By Mr. Brien:

Q. Is it five or six months in every case?—A. No, sir. The cases I have mentioned were every time a case of a man with a family.

Q. Do you know why the delay occurs?—A. I cannot tell you; they tell me it is at Ottawa.

Q. What is the cause of it?—A. I do not understand it. I investigated Snyder's case personally, and we have every detail of his case from his regimental number to the number of socks he had.

Q. They threw the blame on Ottawa?—A. They throw the blame on Ottawa. Since I have been here I have taken up this question and I am pretty reliably informed that the fault is with the Bureau of Insurance in Washington. If such is the case, we shall take it up there.

By Mr. Cooper:

Q. Have you seen Snyder's file in the head office here?—A. No.

Q. I would suggest that you see it so as to get your own idea of where the correspondence started, where the delay was, whether at our end or at the other?—A. I do believe that there is a little bit of negligence on the other side.

By Mr. Peck:

Q. Is there any representative of the Pensions Board in Chicago?—A. Not that I know of.

Q. How many veterans are there in Chicago?—A. Approximately 8,000.

Q. Do you think that an official stationed there would be advisable?—A. I certainly do. When these men get into trouble they usually go to the British consul. He is a very, very fine gentleman; he is very amiable and friendly towards us. But he cannot handle these cases; he is so flooded with work. He sends them to our association. I happen to be in a profession that gives me a little spare time, and I take up those cases. We had what is called Veterans' Relief, and the boys are able to go there, but only in extraordinarily urgent cases are they able to get five or ten dollars from that bureau.

Q. How many pensioners are there in Chicago?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. The question of whether there should be an office there would depend upon the number of pensioners. I thought you said there were 8,000?—A. Not, 8,000 pensioners, 8,000 C.E.F. men.

Mr. CLARK: There is an office in connection with pensions in Chicago.

WITNESS: There is a medical man; Banks and Murphy are the two medical men.

Mr. AHERN: I may say that there are 3,265 pensioners in the whole of the United States.

[Mr. Nightingale].