

## APPENDIX No. 2

Q. That is the point I want to bring out.—A. You cannot do it. We have had probably hundreds of cases in which men want their discharge in order to get away and they will sign any paper you put before them in order to get their discharge. There used to be a system of “waivers.” The men waived all right to pension and everything else in order to get out of the sanatoria. Nevertheless we have to give the pensions afterwards, but the Department of Militia and Defence did not feel they could keep them.

Q. The Military Hospitals Commission laid that down as a principle, that they would not retain compulsorily a man suffering from tuberculosis, did they not?—A. I do not know whether the Military Hospitals Commission laid it down as a principle; I think it was the Department of Militia and Defence. Of course, the Military Hospitals Commission is not now under the Department of Militia and Defence.

*By Mr. Redman:*

Q. They could make him do anything as long as he is in the army?—A. They could do anything they wanted to, but, as a matter of policy, they did not think it was right—of course I do not know what they thought, but I know what they did.

*By Mr. Nesbitt:*

Q. Do you know what is the policy in the case of a man who wants his discharge and wants to get back into civil life; why do they hold on to him?—A. They hold on to him because they think it is to the advantage of the country to get the man back into a good state of health if it is possible to do so. If you let a man out who was a tuberculosis patient who needs treatment, if he has that treatment you can arrest his disease, possibly, and put him into the condition that he will never suffer from tuberculosis again, provided he does not take up some arduous occupation.

Q. I quite appreciate that in the case of a tubercular patient, but supposing he is only anxious to get back to civil life, and is able to do the work he was doing before he joined the service?—A. In the case of a bruised nerve or something like that, which needs massage, I see absolutely no reason why he should not be allowed to get it outside. He could get a job and at the same time he might get the same treatment which he could get here for an hour a day.

Q. At his own home?—A. Yes, he could be at his home town. He could not get the treatment in his own home, but could get it in his own city or town.

*By Mr. Cronyn:*

Q. Would that not lead to laxity? He would not be as anxious to keep up the treatment at his own home as he would if he were under discipline?—A. I think very possibly it would be so. I know the case of a young lieutenant in Montreal who has bruised nerves and he is getting a massage at 11 o'clock at the Royal Victoria Hospital. That massage is completed about 11.15 and he goes out and has absolutely nothing to do for the rest of the day; he has to report nowhere, and all day he has not a thing at all to do. His job is open for him at Fort William I think. Besides, his employers have been paying him full salary ever since he has been away. He wants to go back to his job, but it is a question whether he can get the treatment he requires for his arm if he were to do so. The consequence is that at the present time he is loafing around Montreal.

Q. And does he get his lieutenant's pay?—A. He is getting his pay and is getting pay from his company and is also getting treatment.

Q. That is why I mentioned that special type of case. I am told there are 3,000 of those cases scattered all over the country and even as far as California, and it is costing the country many thousand dollars a year for these men?—A. There is one point why there is objection to discharging these men until their treatment is completed, and that is that the Department of Militia and Defence, of course, want to get men back for service if they can. That is why they keep them frequently so long in

[Mr. Kenneth Archibald.]