

APPENDIX No 1

(8)

Report on Cases of Four Men in Training.

OTTAWA, 11th October, 1919.

The Chairman,
Parliamentary Committee on Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir,—Four of your questionnaires handed in by Mr. MacNeil were handed to me for further information, the four cases in particular having stated that they had had Vocational Training.

In the first case, that of *John Fitzpatrick* ex-Pte 82nd Btn. age 43, born in Scotland. Fitzpatrick has been for some time before the war a steam engineer and fireman for various mines and the C.P.R. in the neighbourhood of Calgary. His occupation in Scotland before coming to this country was as a farm labourer. He apparently worked prior to the war in these various occupations without any certificate. Due to his disability—bronchitis and valvular disease of the heart he was unable to go back into the heavy work as fireman or steam engineer in the various mines and he desired to take out his third class engineer's certificate with a view to being employed as a janitor in one of the larger buildings, which work he could attend to very well with his disabilities and with his past experience would be able to obtain his certificate with very little difficulty.

He completed his course on September 5th and on September 11th was reported as unemployed to this office. Every effort will be made by the Department to obtain employment for this man in the line of his training at as early a date as possible. It is now just one month from date of completion of training and he was granted an extra month's pay and allowances to cover this period in case employment was not available.

J. W. Chorley. Mr. Chorley stated that he had had a six months' vocational course in shoe repairing at Saskatoon, and was unable to start in business on account of having no capital and was in need of cash to start in this business.

Mr. Chorley's records with this Department are as follows:—

Age: 36.

Birthplace: Scotland.

Married with 4 children between the ages of 8 and 3 years.

Disability: Limited use of right shoulder and periodical pains in chest.

He was granted a six months course in shoe repairing at Saskatoon; his pre-war occupation being as groom, farmer, scaffolder and fisherman, and later returned to farming in 1907.

After completion of his course he started up in business in Medicine Hat as a shoe repairer, this information being forwarded October 8th, 1919.

I now find on looking over his Headquarters' file in a paper just received he stated his pre-war occupation was that of a confectioner. If this information had been available when his course was granted it is unlikely that he would have been granted a retraining course as the extent of his disability would certainly not prevent him from returning to his work as a confectioner.

I may say that in many of these cases of men being trained in occupations such as shoe repairing it is the endeavour of our District Officers to obtain a sum of money for starting them in business through the local Boards of Trade or other organizations which are willing to advance money for this purpose. There is no money at the disposal of the Department for this purpose.