

APPENDIX No. 2

of civilian doctors, and they will be passed on for pension. There is one other way in which the new department affects the Board of Pension Commissioners, that is to say, under the previous regulations we made reports to the Minister of Finance; now we shall make reports to the Minister of the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment Department. I understand, however, that in the Bill, passed through the House a little while ago, the duties and powers of the Board of Pension Commissioners were reserved to them, the result being that outside apparently of having the Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, through whom to report, our powers will not be circumscribed at all; that is to say, we shall have exclusive jurisdiction with regard to matters of pensions as was always intended.

By Mr. Sutherland:

Q. Are these soldiers discharged before they are turned over to the Soldiers' Re-establishment Department?—A. Yes, they will be discharged from Military Service to the Department of Soldiers' Re-establishment for the purpose of getting further treatment, if they are long treatment cases, and for the purpose of getting pensions from the Board of Pension Commissioners when not long treatment cases.

Q. Then it might be that they will be turned over to the Soldiers' Re-establishment Department and not get a pension and possibly not get enough to become eligible for a pension at any time?—A. At the present time, as I say, there is an Order now before Council, one of the provisions of which is that pensions shall not be payable while a man is undergoing treatment in an institution under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, but that he shall only get his pension when he is discharged again from that institution, as a case having reached a medical finality.

By Mr. Ross:

Q. Is that not going to encourage a man to stay there a long time? If he is discharged from the C.E.F. what becomes of his pay and allowances?—A. Allowances will be paid by the Department of the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment to these men while they are undergoing treatment.

By Mr. Nesbitt:

Q. And to their families also?—A. And to their families, on a basis that works out at about the same rate as the separation allowance and Patriotic Fund.

By Mr. Ross:

Q. Then the man is getting kept all that time without any diminution at all in his pay and allowances?—A. No. If the man is 100 per cent disabled, if he is suffering from tuberculosis you owe him the duty of curing him, and also the duty of giving him some pocket money and seeing that his wife and family do not suffer, and these allowances are scaled from that point of view, and are to be paid by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. They are a little bit larger than the pay and separation allowance, because the pay and separation allowance have the Patriotic Fund to help them out, whereas the allowances as payable by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment would not have the Patriotic Fund to help them out. The result is that the department has to make the allowance a little bit bigger. The allowances are just a little bit bigger than the pension when the man has only two or three children, but a little smaller than the pension when the man has five or six children.

By Mr. Cronyn:

Q. I want to get this clear in my mind. There is a class of soldier who comes across who is suffering from T.B., or requires some other long treatment, perhaps an incurable disease, the idea is that he shall at once be discharged from the strength of the C.E.F., and loses his Military pay and all allowances. He shall then be transferred to the control of what I prefer to call "The Invalided Soldiers Commission," which

[Mr. Kenneth Archibald.]