

and guide them is very, very interesting. I like to look on them as good citizens of Canada. We are not just interested spectators in the welfare of this great country; we are citizens of this great country and I believe that I may say we are the more worthy citizens of this country because of our willingness to hazard our lives for it, and on this great national ground I appeal to you to make their compensation secure. It is not fair for us to be anxious; it is not fair to the women and children who are under our care to be anxious about the future. In our anxiety we may lose something of the spirit which made us the men that we were as citizens, and I think the little children may not have just the opportunity that they might have had had their daddies not gone to the war. I appeal to you on behalf of the great patriotic public spirit in citizens of this country that we may continue to develop our own lives towards a high standard of great character and citizenship, that we may have the opportunity which should be securely ours to assist our wives and our families to co-operate, and to sustain that noble spirit which enabled us to get the spirit of the great task of war, and which I submit to you for your thoughts to-day, is the most dependable spirit for citizenship in this country to which you belong.

I have very great pleasure in thanking you for your courtesy in inviting us here to-day. We have come to you gladly; we have come and faced you without a twinkle in our eyes; we have come to look straight from the shoulder and straight from the eyes, into the faces of those who sent us to the front, and we come back to you and ask you for fair, reasonable and right compensation for the services and the sacrifices that have been made. I thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Myers, in addressing the committee, invited questions. It is in the hands of the committee to say now whether we should proceed any further, or if the committee is satisfied with what we have heard so far. If you would like to ask questions of Mr. Myers, I am sure he would be glad to answer them.

Mr. CALDWELL: I remember, Mr. Myers and some of these gentlemen being before our committee on several occasions before. There is one point you did not bring up that I think probably you should have, and that is the fact that the amputation cases are more expensive in regard to clothing than the others, especially in regard to the gear you have to wear.

Mr. MYERS: Yes. I can answer that question, sir, because we gave evidence some time ago to the Ralston Commission. They were very good to us; they gave us every opportunity; gave us unlimited scope; they let us hang ourselves, if you like; they let us go the limit; I do not know what their findings are, but we presented to them our entire programme. I understand that the Ralston Commission is shortly to report, and I hope there will be some reference in their report to us. The fact is that at the moment we are willing, if it comes down to the final point, to sacrifice everything that we have for the rest of the disabled men in this country, if you men will turn around and say, "Here, don't worry; you shall have your pension permanently." We will sacrifice whatever they recommend in that regard, and be only too glad to do so.

Mr. DOBBS: Mr. Chairman, I might answer that question. We sent out a circular to every amputation case asking him to state what, in his opinion, would be the extra cost of the wear and tear on clothing. I happen to be the President of the Toronto Branch, and we got replies from some 400 men there. The average of the replies, throwing out the extravagant ones, and averaging up the reasonable, worked out to somewhere between \$55 and \$60 a year for leg amputations, and to about \$22 to \$24 a year for an arm amputation, who wears the arm.

Mr. CALDWELL: Extra expense?

Mr. DOBBS: Yes, the extra pair of trousers and the extra reinforcing, the extra shirts and so on. I believe Calgary got practically about the same result;