

## APPENDIX No. 4

Mr. NESBITT: I think you were allowed to pay him a lump sum as gratuity.

*By Mr. Arthurs:*

Q. Up to what percentage would that suggestion apply?—A. Up to the 19 class of cases. In the first place a very large percentage of our pensioners are under 20 per cent.

Q. Are you given power to give a lump sum?—A. Yes, up to 5 per cent. I might say, if it is of any interest to the Committee, that in Austria they give no man a pension under 20 per cent.

*By Mr. Cooper:*

Q. I think they clear off the obligation with a gratuity?—A. I consider the Austrian the most scientific pension. It is a low pension, but on the other hand it is scientific.

*By Mr. Clark:*

Q. Would you suggest that under the 19 class they be settled with by commuting the pension?—A. No, it should not be made compulsory.

Q. Not compulsory, but optional, if they ask to have it commuted?—A. Yes, that is one of the amendments. I will give you the percentages; pensions from 5 to 9 per cent constitute 11 per cent of the present pensioners; from 10 to 19 per cent, 45 per cent of the total. Fifty-six per cent of our pensioners are under 20 per cent disability. These are the ones we have the complaints about.

*By Mr. Power:*

Q. We might as well have them all?—A. The 100 per cent disability are 2½ per cent of our pensioners; the 50 to 99 per cent disability are 9 per cent; the 30 to 49 per cent disability are 10¼ per cent; the 20 to 29 per cent disability are 2¾ per cent; the 10 to 19 per cent disability are 45 per cent; the 5 to 9 per cent disability are 11 per cent. So you see that the large number is the 10 to 19 per cent disability.

Q. What would it cost if every private soldier were to get 90 per cent disability?—A. I could not tell you that, because it depends upon the nature of the disability. Nobody can tell you that without seeing the man's file. He might have something that would work itself out in a few years.

Mr. COOPER: I think he has worked it out in that shape.

*By Mr. Power:*

Q. If the permanent disability was 90 per cent what would it cost?—A. We have it worked out. 5 to 19 per cent would be \$450, that is the average.

Q. Formerly you gave a gratuity of from \$75 to \$100 for cases under 10 per cent?—A. Five per cent, I think it was.

Q. After what year was this scheme changed?—A. Which scheme?

Q. Paying the man a bonus or gratuity instead of giving him a pension when he was a certain per cent disability?—A. My recollection is that we always gave it in a small way.

Q. Do you do it yet?—A. Yes.

MAJOR BURGESS: It used to be under the old regulations, when the pensions were in classes, that cases under 20 per cent were paid by a gratuity, \$75, \$50, and \$25. At the present time, up to 4 per cent are given gratuity of from \$25 to \$100, depending upon whether it is a temporary or permanent disability. Disability of less extent, 2½ per cent, for instance, is considered negligible and gets no gratuity.

Mr. THOMPSON: 1 per cent permanent disability gets a gratuity. For instance, the loss of the little finger is considered permanent and would get \$25.