



# Join Now and Help Those Who Helped You



## The Legions are Rendering Service

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as evidence a doctor's certificate to the effect that "I treated William Brown at various times for a bad bronchial condition, and believe that this condition is due to war service." It is on this point that the Service Bureau and its predecessors have proven invaluable to the claimants and to the nation. The Bureau bridges a gap which, if it had been left open, would have resulted in injustice and chaos. The service work of the Legion aids, primarily the applicant, but it also serves the nation effectively by assisting it to fulfill the expression and earnest desire of the people of Canada that those who suffered because of war service should be compensated to the extent of the country's ability to provide for them.

With the passing of twelve years since the conclusion of the war the typical claim which comes to the attention of the Bureau to-day is represented in the following hypothetical letter:

"Dear Sir:

"I went overseas with the C. E. F. and served in France for three years. During this time I was with my unit continuously, being treated on one or two occasions by the Battalion M. O. for a bad cough. Upon returning to Canada, I was discharged as fit and went to work, later I went to the local doctor and got some medicine. I had a sort of a run-down feeling from time to time and this kept occurring more often until last week when the doctor sent me to a specialist for an examination of my lungs. The specialist tells me I have tuberculosis. I was quite all right before the war but have never been able to get rid of the cough which came on when we spent a month in the line in mud and water in the Salient. Do you think there is any chance of the Government taking care of me until I get well and helping the wife and children while I am unable to work?"

"Yours truly,

"William Brown, C. E. F."

**Circumstances Vary**

The circumstances may vary, and the condition may be of the heart, stomach, kidneys, or the recurrence of some disability arising from a wound, but this letter epitomizes the problem as presented to the adjustment officer. First, the service record of the man is verified, followed by an investigation to discover if any mention of his disability is included in his C. E. F. documents. Should there be no such record, a search is made to find out the identity of the medical officer who treated the man on active service. It is a lamentable fact that a great many of these splendid exponents of their profession have since joined the silent Army. In such instances it is necessary to search for the medical sergeant or other members of the M. O.'s staff, in order to secure statements of their recollections of any treatment given. Frequently when the search of these sources fails it is necessary to find former officers and comrades of the man, as it is vital to establish that the inception of the condition was on active service. This often requires months of correspondence. Concurrently with the search for evidence or origin, an effort is made to compile an accurate history of the case since the man's discharge from the army. The records of local doctors, have to be relied upon to a great extent for this purpose.

**Neglect is Avoided**

While the efforts to establish his right to treatment or pension are in progress, the man's condition is not permitted to become aggravated by neglect. The Bureau seeks to have him accepted as a patient until his right to pension is proven or otherwise. If this fails, and the emergency is reached, his admission to some other institution is sought and assistance procured where possible for his maintenance.

When evidence of origin and continuity of the disability finally has been gathered, the adjustment officer communicates with the department and usually carries the case for personal presentation and argument. Should the chain of evidence not be considered strong enough by the department, the adjustment officer returns again to the task of finding new channels of information and corroboration. In the more complicated cases this process may be repeated several times before an adjustment is effected. When every possible source of evidence has been exhausted and the department still is of the opinion that it cannot conscientiously accept the man as a responsibility of the people of Canada, under the amended legislation of 1930 the case is referred to the Veterans' Bureau with a view to subsequent hearing by one of the Pension Tribunals. Frequently the applicant will elect to have the Legion continue his case by the appearance on his behalf of an adjustment officer as counsel before the Tribunal. But as far as possible the Legion leaves this task to the Pension Advocates. A large number of the favorable decisions of the Tribunals have been reached upon evidence compiled through Legion Bureaux.

**Unerring Judgment**

From their years of experience the officers of the Service Bureau have an almost unerring sense of the value of an individual claim. This sense develops a passion for justice which leads them to fight on in the face of unfavorable decisions. Frequently they are rewarded,

even after the passage of years, by discovering the vital bit of evidence which turns the tide.

Fraudulent claims are soon detected, for unless an applicant is sincere in his or her belief as to the justice of their representations they will be unable to persist to the point of misdirecting the adjustment officer a second time in his efforts on their behalf.

### Conversant With Law

The hypothetical case as outlined portrays generally the work involved in a pension claim. There are numerous complications in regard to pension, such as the assessment of the amount of the disability; cases in which non-service disabilities (where the individual suffers from more than one disability due to war service); dependent's pensions, with the many angles of widows, parents and orphans' entitlement, problems of dependent wives who were married subsequent to the appearance of the disability which proved fatal, and many other

points in which the adjustment officer must be conversant with the law and with regulations as applied by the Department.

Then there are the other claims arising from soldier settlement, returned soldiers' insurance, war service gratuity, medals and decorations, immigration, civil service appointments under the returned soldiers' preference, etc.

### GOING THE PACE

"I'm very tired," said the lady at the head of the supper table, one Sunday evening.

"You should not be," said her minister, who had been asked to the evening meal, "you haven't preached two sermons to-day."

"No," said the lady, absent-mindedly, "but I listened to them."



LT.-COL. J. P. PICKING

First Vice-President of the Provincial Command, who is also acting as Honorary Secretary, the latter as a temporary measure. Lt.-Col. Picking will be a guest of the Acton Branch on Charter Night.

### FAIR SEX FIGHTS FAT WITH WHEATEN DIET

Enquiries among restaurateurs in several Canadian cities suggest that the fair sex has found a new and better diet to preserve that stylish-like figure. Gone is the starvation menu—the slice of toast and the glass of water. Instead the modern miler is slimming on whole wheat, with milk and fruit added.

The enquiries which were made of restaurant owners by the Canadian Shredded Wheat Company included the following question, "Are whole wheat foods of all types more popular with lady customers than five years ago?" The reply was an almost unanimous "Yes" with the rider that while breakfast is still the big cereal eating meal, whole wheaten items are becoming increasingly popular at other meals, particularly tea.

Asked for reasons for this change, many replied that waitresses reported to them that customers had decided that whole wheat, fruit and milk was a slimming yet nourishing diet.

It is thought by the Canadian Shredded Wheat Company that the girls' new diet has been inspired partly by advertising but more certainly by continued medical advice through various channels emphasizing the complete food value of such a diet without increasing bodily weight.

### HE'D BEEN IN HARNESS

Housewife—"I haven't much to eat in the house, but would you like some cake?"

Tramp—"Yes."

Housewife—"Yes—what?"

Tramp—"You, dear."

### VALUABLE PACKAGE

"Tommy, can you tell me one of the uses of cowhide?"

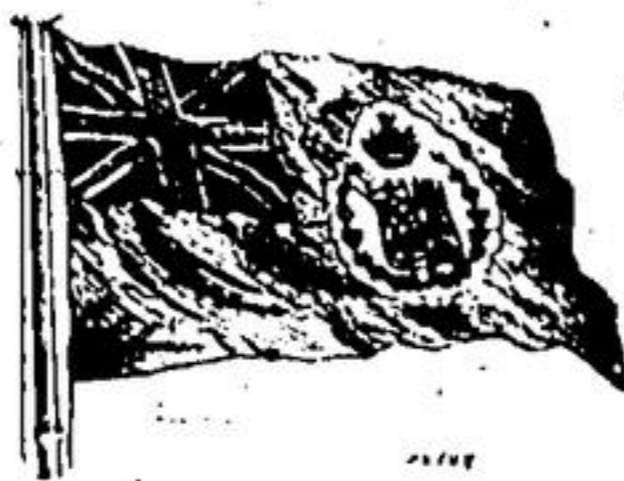
"Er, yesir. It keeps the cow together."

**Good Luck to  
Acton Branch No. 197,  
Canadian Legion**

**C. B. Swackhamer**

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