

1936.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEFENCE COMMITTEE

(REPORTS OF THE).

(MR. J. A. LEE, CHAIRMAN.)

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives.

ORDERS OF REFERENCE.

Extracts from the Journals of the House of Representatives.

THURSDAY, THE 16TH DAY OF APRIL, 1936.

Ordered, "That a Select Committee be appointed, consisting of ten members, to consider all matters in connection with defence which may be referred to it: the Committee to consist of Mr. Barclay, Mr. Christie, Mr. Cullen, Colonel Hargest, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Lee, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Roy, Mr. Sexton, and the Mover."—(Hon. Mr. JONES.)

FRIDAY, THE 17TH DAY OF APRIL, 1936.

Ordered, "That all petitions not finally dealt with during the session of 1935 be again referred to the same Committees as they were referred to during the said session."—(Hon. Mr. SAVAGE.)

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No. 28.—Petition of L. SIM, of Himatangi.

PRAYING for payment of a sum representing the amount of military pay allegedly due to him while on active service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

7th May, 1936.

No. 25, 1935.—Petition of E. B. TAYLOR, of Bay of Islands.

PRAYING that he be granted a pension in respect of a disability allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

7th May, 1936.

No. 151, 1935.—Petition of MARY M. BIDWELL, of Auckland.

PRAYING that she be granted a pension on account of her late husband's war service.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for most favourable consideration.

7th May, 1936.

No. 185, 1935.—Petition of PHYLLIS KERZ, of Auckland.

PRAYING that she be granted a compassionate allowance in consideration of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

7th May, 1936.

No. 4.—Petition of W. B. BRADFORD, of Bay of Islands.

PRAYING that he be granted a pension in respect of a disability allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

7th May, 1936.

No. 13.—Petition of ELSIE M. MATTHEWS, of Auckland.

PRAYING for a war widow's pension or other relief.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

7th May, 1936.

No. 23, 1935.—Petition of J. C. MORGAN, of Te Puke.

PRAYING that he be granted a pension and treatment in a sanatorium on account of disability allegedly contracted while on active service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration. The Committee is also of opinion that the petitioner should make application for relief under the War Veteran's Allowances Act, 1935, and that the Pensions Department should arrange for further medical examinations if the petitioner notifies the Department of further attacks of malaria.

7th May, 1936.

No. 14.—Petition of HANNAH POWELL, of Wellington.

PRAYING for a pension or compassionate allowance in respect of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration. The Committee is also of opinion that the position of the soldiers' widows for whom existing pension legislation does not provide and of dependants of deceased soldiers should be further investigated with a view to removing anomalies.

7th May, 1936.

No. 12.—Petition of C. McKINNON, of Kaitiā.

PRAYING that he be granted pension or other relief in respect of a disability allegedly contracted while on service with the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration. The Committee is also of opinion that the Government should consider the extension of the War Veterans' Allowances Act, 1935, to enable its benefits to apply to soldiers who, leaving New Zealand, did not serve in a theatre of war.

20th May, 1936.

No. 37.—Petition of D. P. PRYDE, of Dunedin.

PRAYING that the superannuation retiring-allowance payable to him be computed on a service basis without any actuarial deduction.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration. The Committee desires also to express its opinion that the whole question of superannuation on compulsory retirement from the Service should be investigated by the Government.

20th May, 1936.

No. 3.—Petition of MAUD K. EDSER, of Patea.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance in respect of the children of a returned soldier, who died as a result of a disability allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

20th May, 1936.

No. 20.—Petition of C. J. RAWNSLEY, of Onehunga.

PRAYING for refund of medical expenses in connection with treatment of war injuries.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

20th May, 1936.

No. 87, 1935.—Petition of AMELIA H. McNEILL, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compassionate allowance or other relief in consideration of her late husband's services as vocational training instructor at Pukeora Sanatorium.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

JOHN A. LEE, Chairman.

20th May, 1936.

No. 71.—Petition of S. TOVEY, of Wellington.

PRAYING for compensation and a pension on account of injuries allegedly sustained while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

4th June, 1936.

No. 52.—Petition of H. E. BUCKLAND, of Dunedin.

PRAYING for compensation in respect of a disability allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee, being of the opinion that the petitioner may be entitled to relief under the War Veterans' Allowances Act, 1935, recommend that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration.

4th June, 1936.

No. 76.—Petition of J. PIERCY, of Mataura.

PRAYING for restoration of war pension.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

4th June, 1936.

Nos. 59 and 138.—Petitions of MARY E. ALLEN, of Wellington.

PRAYING that she be granted a pension on account of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

4th June, 1936.

No. 24.—Petition of JESSIE GRUNDY, of Auckland.

PRAYING that she be granted an allowance in respect of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

4th June, 1936.

No. 114.—Petition of P. DRUMMOND, of Southland.

PRAYING for remission of fines and payment of war gratuity.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

4th June, 1936.

No. 108.—Petition of ETHEL L. WOODING, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compensation in respect of herself and daughter on account of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration. The Committee is also of opinion that the petitioner would have received an amount in excess of £200 if she had exhausted her legal rights.

4th June, 1936.

W. J. LYON, for Chairman.

No. 186, 1935.—Petition of T. FARR, of Wellington.

PRAYING for compensation on account of compulsory retirement from the Defence Department.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration; the Committee desires also to express the opinion that if legislation is passed increasing the superannuation benefits of officers compulsorily retired, a similar proportionate gratuity should be granted to officers compulsorily retired who are not superannuitants.

14th August, 1936.

No. 96.—Petition of S. L. TEPPETT, of Auckland.

PRAYING that he be granted an allowance or pension in respect of disabilities allegedly caused during service with the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy.

I have the honour to report that in view of the legislation relating to pensions being brought down by the Government and of the fact that the petitioner may be able to present his claim thereunder, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

14th August, 1936.

No. 6.—Petition of S. G. PUDNEY, of Wellington.

PRAYING that he be granted a pension and treatment in respect of an injury allegedly sustained while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

14th August, 1936.

No. 16.—Petition of A. J. ROBINSON, of Wellington.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance or other relief in respect of his war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

14th August, 1936.

No. 60.—Petition of P. F. TOOMEY, of Wellington.

PRAYING for restoration of war pension and payment of arrears from date of discontinuance.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

JOHN A. LEE, Chairman.

14th August, 1936.

No. 101.—Petition of C. MARCHANT, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compensation for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Royal Navy, or reinstatement in the Service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration; the Committee is of the opinion that it should be ascertained from Audit whether the petitioner was dismissed for practices which were not in accordance with regulations which were general.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 139.—Petition of G. M. B. STAYT, of Ashburton.

PRAYING that she be granted a compassionate allowance in respect of herself and children on account of the death of her husband through a disability, contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 151.—Petition of BESSIE McBRATNEY, of Winchester.

PRAYING for a war widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 150.—Petition of J. A. DOWLER, of Eastbourne.

PRAYING for a compassionate grant equal to the war veteran's allowance.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for most favourable consideration.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 147.—Petition of M. ANDERSON, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for payment of a compassionate allowance on account of a disability allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has carefully considered this petition, but, as the petitioner has not exhausted all legal remedies, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 125.—Petition of J. R. OLIVER, of Cromwell.

PRAYING that he be granted a war pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 15.—Petition of L. A. BOND, of Wellington.

PRAYING for a pension or compassionate allowance in respect of his war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

3rd September, 1936.

No. 120.—Petition of L. SAYERS, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for inquiry into the circumstances surrounding his retirement from the Defence Department, and for compensation or reinstatement in the Public Service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

11th September, 1936.

No. 188.—Petition of A. R. CLARK, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compensation for injuries allegedly received whilst acting as a marker in a miniature rifle match, or re-employment in the Public Service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
23rd September, 1936.

No. 236.—Petition of P. F. TOOMEY, of Wellington.

PRAYING for restoration of military and economic pension and payment of arrears from date of discontinuance.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
23rd September, 1936.

No. 169.—Petition of W. P. STOREY, of Auckland.

PRAYING for a grant of £1,500 and other relief for information allegedly supplied in regard to the movements of certain ships during the Great War.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
23rd September, 1936.

No. 178.—Petition of IVY L. POULSEN, of Auckland.

PRAYING that she be granted a soldier's widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
24th September, 1936.

No. 205.—Petition of ISABELLA CLANEY, of Kuaotunu.

PRAYING for a war widow's pension or compassionate allowance in lieu thereof.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration; the Committee is of the opinion that the position of the widows of soldiers who were drawing a disability pension at time of death should be investigated, with a view to considering whether such widows could be provided for in manner similar to the widows of miners under the present pensions legislation.

24th September, 1936.

No. 168.—Petition of F. S. DAVIS-GOFF, of Blenheim.

PRAYING for compensation for disabilities allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
24th September, 1936.

No. 185.—Petition of J. H. BOSWELL, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compensation in respect of the death of his son.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for most favourable consideration; the Committee desires also to express the opinion that as a result of this unfortunate accident, the funeral and individual expenses should be covered.

1st October, 1936.

No. 219.—Petition of MARY K. R. GREIG, of Rangiora.

PRAYING that she be granted a war widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

1st October, 1936.

No. 246.—Petition of GLADYS H. CLARKE, of Lower Hutt.

PRAYING that she be granted an allowance equivalent to the war widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

1st October, 1936.

No. 234.—Petition of ADELINA CORRIGALL, of Otago.

PRAYING that she be granted a pension on account of a disability allegedly contracted by her late husband while undergoing a period of training during the Great War.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
1st October, 1936.

No. 194.—Petition of GLADYS G. WADE, of Auckland.

PRAYING that she be granted a war widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make; the Committee suggest that the petitioner make application for war widow's pension.

1st October, 1936.

No. 264.—Petition of ANNIE G. FRASER, of Gore.

PRAYING that she be granted a soldier's widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make; the Committee suggest that the petitioner apply for the invalidity pension.

13th October, 1936.

No. 258.—Petition of SARAH L. ROBBIE, of Lower Hutt.

PRAYING for payment of separation allowance in respect of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

13th October, 1936.

No. 263.—Petition of W. LOGAN, of Lower Hutt.

PRAYING for further free treatment or other relief in respect of injuries allegedly sustained while on war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for most favourable consideration; and the Committee is of the opinion that the expense of treatment, in connection with the petitioner's disability, should be borne by the Department.

13th October, 1936.

No. 279.—Petition of J. WAKE, of Wellington.

PRAYING that he be granted a war veteran's allowance.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

16th October, 1936.

No. 283.—Petition of J. B. SNELL, of Oamaru.

PRAYING for arrears of pension on account of the death of his son while on active service.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

16th October, 1936.

No. 276.—Petition of ELIZABETH DAVANNEY, of Onewhero.

PRAYING that she be granted a pension on account of the death of her husband from disabilities allegedly contracted while on war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration; the Committee is of the opinion that the position of the widows of soldiers who were drawing a disability pension at time of death should be investigated, with a view to considering whether such widows could be provided for in manner similar to the widows of miners under the present pensions legislation.

16th October, 1936.

No. 265.—Petition of MARY GRAY, of Wellington.

PRAYING that she be granted a soldier's widow's pension.

I have the honour to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

16th October, 1936.

No. 278.—Petition of EDITH J. DONNELLY, of Stratford.

PRAYING that she be granted a pension in consideration of her late husband's war service.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration; the Committee is of the opinion that, owing to the number of cases of elderly widows in distressed circumstances coming before the Defence Committee, this Committee recommend that the plight of such widows should be considered by the Government when dealing with the coming national superannuation scheme.

16th October, 1936.

No. 269.—Petition of BRIDGET HENDRY, of Devonport.

PRAYING that she be granted a war widow's pension or a compassionate allowance in lieu thereof.

I have the honour to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration; the Committee recommend that the advice of the War Pensions Board be taken as to whether the cause of death could be attributed to the explosion on the "Flora Simplan," and, if held attributable, that it be a recommendation to the Government that the petitioner be granted a special annuity, equivalent to a war widow's pension.

W. J. LYON, for Chairman.

28th October, 1936.

SPECIAL REPORT.

I AM directed to report that the Defence Committee desires to place on record its hearty appreciation of the services of its Chairman, Mr. Lee, and has directed that a resolution to this effect be placed on the minutes of the Committee and be reported to the House.

J. A. McL. ROY, a Member of the Committee.

28th October, 1936.

SPECIAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Defence Committee desire to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered by the Clerk of the Committee, Mr. E. B. Harman, and, further, desires this resolution to be recorded in the minutes of the Committee and be reported to the House.

28th October, 1936.

FINAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Defence Committee, consisting of ten members, has held nineteen meetings during the session, and the average attendance of members has been five. Fifty-four petitions were referred to the Committee and reported on to the House.

W. J. LYON, for Chairman.

28th October, 1936.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (344 copies), £8.