

51.

Revised - September, 1923

N.L. 1706 29
DO
None 3/8

DATE

3.3.29

WHOM

GO TO BOARD

SUBJECT

Secretary
1st Sgt Lord

NOT

J. Bennett late Boy II
ATTEMPT

Invalided Appeal against

TO

MEMOR.

Referred to	Date
<i>956/29</i>	
<i>1105/8.3.29</i>	
<i>1109/11.3.29</i>	
<i>1117/5/4/29</i>	
<i>1121/5/4/29</i>	

Referred to	Date
COPY	
THIS	
PAGE	

NOTATION ONLY	
Referred to	Date
18 APR	
<i>M.P.S. 1105/8.3.29</i>	
<i>M.H. detached</i>	
<i>Noted 9/17/29</i>	
<i>W.H.</i>	
<i>9/15/29</i>	
<i>T.A. 11.5.29</i>	

PLEASE

Information as to the cause of invaliding, condition while serving &c in cases such as this is occasionally given **DO** officially to members of Parliament, and as the boy is under 21 would be given to his parents, but no reason is seen for furnishing it to or entering into a discussion on the subject with an inquirer who has no official position and is not, so far as we know, related to the boy or acting on behalf of the Government. **NOT ATTEMPT**

It is therefore proposed to reply as at X of H. G. of the 4th April, adding that I ~~am sorry to hear that the boy is now~~ **TO** ~~substantiated~~ a physical weakly repudiate the suggestion that ~~the~~ **TO** ~~condition is due to~~ any ~~ill-treatment~~ **COPY** ~~which~~ ~~care~~ during the period Oct 1915 to May 1926 when he was at Sholby.

THIS

Submitted
 R. B. ...
 NL
 11. 4

Approved
PAGE

11. 4. 49

Letter accordingly copy to C. C. ...

THANK YOU

In Head of ...
 15. 4. 49

PLEASE

4 April, 1929.

Bennett was invalided on the 2nd June, 1926, on account of "Mental Inefficiency" certified by the Medical Board of Survey to be no **DO**tributable to the Service. As he was discharged prior to attaining the age of 18 years he is ineligible for the award of any compensation under the Disability Pensions **NOT** Regulations.

A copy of the Form B.216 (Certificate of Final Medical Examination on Entry) relating to Bennett is attached.

In addition, the following customary certificate appears on his **ATTEMPT** ~~Medical Examination~~:

This is to certify that we have examined the boy named on the other side hereof, as to his fitness for His Majesty's Navy, and we find **TO** as follows:- He is a well grown, stout, intelligent lad; of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, and free from all physical malformation; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service. **COPY**

⁰²¹⁴
(Sd.). R.H. Noble
Captain.

9th October, 1925.

(Sd.). J. MacDonald.
Surgeon Captain.

September 22, 1925.

THIS

R. Gordon

PAGE

for A.C.

No Remarks.

THANK YOU

5/4/29

1917/R 6354/20

216 (late S.—271a). (Established—February, 1905.)
(Revised—September, 1917.)

COPY OF

Certificate of Final Medical Examination for the Entry of Men and Boys for the Royal Navy.

PLEASE

Macdonald
Accountant

This Certificate is to be attached immediately after the final entry of the Candidate to his Medical History Sheet. At the expiration of 3 years from the date of entry, the form can be detached from the Medical History Sheet and destroyed.

I, the undersigned, have examined Edward Bennett Candidate for entry as Boy and class 1st S.

DO

I believe him to be in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service. He has signed the Certificate below in my presence.

Dated at R.N. Rec. Recruiting Office, S. Suffolk the 17th of September, 1917

(Sgt.) J. Macdonald (Final Examining Medical Officer.)

Surgeon Captain (Rank)
ATTEMPT (Station)

Examined Oct 8th
(Child) J.M.

This Examination has been made in accordance with the Instructions for Recruiting.

Weight without Clothes (lb)	Height with Shoe (ft. ins.)	General Development	Chest Girth (inches)	Vision by Snellen's Type, also Color Vision	Vaccinated or revaccinated or Small Pox	Lungs, Heart, &c.	Abdomen, Heroin, &c.	Limbs and Joints	Skin	Ears and Hearing	Testes, Varicocele, &c.	Mouth, Teeth (No. Decayed and Am. Decayed), (Temp), Nails, Tongue, &c.	Anus, Hemorrhoids, &c.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
115	5 2 1/2	Good	36 34 35	R 6/6 L 6/6 C.V.N	Yes	N	N	N	N	N	N	D	N

COPY

CERTIFICATE TO BE SIGNED BY THE CANDIDATE.

THIS

I hereby certify that to the best of my belief I have never suffered from Fits, *Incontinence of Urine, Discharge from the Ears, or any other disease likely to render me unfit for His Majesty's Service. I am willing to undergo, after entry, such dental treatment as may be found necessary.

(Signed) Edward Bennett Signature of Candidate.

PAGE

When a Candidate is passed, notwithstanding a medical disability, the following Certificate is to be filled up.

This Candidate is the subject of

THANK YOU

considered of sufficient importance to cause his rejection, he being desirable in other respects.

Final Examining Medical Officer.

(Rank)

Will M. D. G. please attach M. H. S. and report generally on Bennett's mental & physical condition

NOT

(2) It is requested that Bennett's medical report on entry, if available, may be attached

ATTEMPT

*J. J. Bennett
In Head of 14
8. 3. 29*

TO



The following notes are taken from the record of Edward Bennett while in Chatham Hospital *in April 1926:-*

COPY

"His expression is dull and heavy. He is mental dull, slow, and contradictory in answering questions. He is slow in his movements and actions, and is below the average intelligence and is mentally dull".

No physical abnormalities were present except a slight weakness in a group of muscles in the left leg, which he stated always been present.

THIS

The following extract from a letter written by him to mother on 24th April 1926 is of interest:-

"Dear Mum, it is fine and if I am lucky I may get my ticket as I am trying to work it".

Bennett was considered to be mentally inefficient and below the standard required for service in the Navy.

There was no evidence of paralysis of the arm or leg or muscles of articulation while in hospital, and no claim was made by him that his condition was the result of injury, or that he suffered from any injuries while at Shotley.

The report of his condition shows that except for the signs described, he was physically fit when discharged from Hospital.

Bennett's medical report on entry is not available. Medical History Sheet is attached.

THIS

W. B. Hall
MEDICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL
13. 3. 29.

Report from records of Sick Quarters, Shotley,
regarding Boy Edward Bennett, JX.128040

It appears that this boy had been under observation both in hospital and on school or attending lists, practically the whole of his six months service at Shotley.

ATTEMPT

It is reported (1) that he frequented the Sick bay with minor or imaginary complaints almost daily when not undergoing punishment for various offences, (2) That neither medical nor disciplinary treatment had any effect on him, (3) That he was a non-sinner, being afraid of the water and generally of no use to himself or to any one else in the Navy.

His divisional officer reported on him to the effect that he was considered to be of subnormal mentality, his natural state being one of dirtiness and his manner peculiar; dense and dull witted and unresponsive to instruction.

The head schoolmaster reported as follows :-

This boy was classified as P.S.2 in school but as he did the whole of his twelve weeks in this class and, on passing out, obtained only 28%, even this class was above his capabilities.

He was discharged to hospital with a view to survey as being undoubtedly below the standard required by recruiting regulations and was invalided for mental inefficiency 5th May, 1926.

THIS

COPY

DO

NOT

C.L.

26/29.

NL 2599/31

SUBJECT. ATTEMPT

Edward Bennett, late Boy 2nd Class.

Requesting compensation under the Disability,
Pensions &c. Regulations.

IO

The enclosed is referred for draft reply.

COPY

If this cannot be furnished **WITHIN 7 DAYS**, the
Civil Lord would be glad to be notified in order that an
interim reply can be sent.

THIS

H.N. Morrison

Civil Lord's Office.
10/7/29.

RECEIVED
17 JUL 1929

PAGE

3956/2
D.G.
17 JUL 1929
NAVY

NOT

ATTEMPT

TO

COPY

THIS

Handwritten scribbles and marks in the top left corner.

*U.S. D. C.
23 AUG 1929*

*File 258.
2/9/29*

*detach
per
file
1/29
file
2/11/30*

*put with
original papers*

*Put with NL 2854
HS*

PLEASE

The former papers are attached for the information.

DO

It seems to me it might be prudent (in our interest) not to complain to have this case medically reported on. The would occur under his present condition of probably dispose of what is hinted at that his condition is due to coming or ill-treatment at Shetley.

NOT

ATTEMPT

12.7.

H. Eastwood
NZ

TO

If considered desirable this may be examined by the Final Medical Exam Officer at the Recruiting Headquarters Birmingham

COPY

THIS

Submitted for consideration. The case at present seems to be an unsupported "Post hoc propter hoc" - He was hit, went to Shetley - is now a wreck. There is no medical evidence of the cause of his present condition. It seems desirable that we should set all the medical evidence possible.

KATHOL
for
M.D.E.
15.7.

PAGE

H. Eastwood
NZ

THANK YOU

PLEASE

In order to render an invalided rating eligible for the grant of a pension on the attributable scale, it is necessary to establish that the invaliding disability was due to the conditions of the Service. The fact that a disability may arise in the Service, does not, in itself, imply that it was due to the Service.

DO

NOT

There is no objection, so far as this Department is concerned, to Bennett being medically re-examined, but no compensation would be payable to him from Naval Funds unless it were decided to alter his invaliding disability from "non-attributable" to "attributable".

ATTEMPT

The Invaliding documents titled "No Claim May 1926" are herewith.

TO

[Handwritten signature]
COPY

for A.G.
20.7.1929.

N.L. In view of *[Handwritten]* **THIS** *[Handwritten]* submitted whether to re-*[Handwritten]* **PAGE** *[Handwritten]* non-attributable to the Service; and leaving to the other side the task of *[Handwritten]* **PAGE** *[Handwritten]* possibly at a later date further medical exam-*[Handwritten]* could *[Handwritten]* might be *[Handwritten]* **THANK YOU** *[Handwritten]* that we are anxious on the score of the point of *[Handwritten]* attributable *[Handwritten]* **THANK YOU** *[Handwritten]*

NL

26.7.

Agree with 4 of N.L. 26/7 and
propose to **PLEASE** previous
Decision.

A.H.H. 29.7.29.

DO

Draft attached
W.H. 2.8
NOT

N.L.
please.

a further **ATTEMPT** for drafts reply

TO

V. LeBaron
L.R. Office
14/8/29.

If you see no objection it is proposed to suggest an
answer as in the enclosed draft. If they should
submit medical evidence on which can be founded
a previous fact case **THIS** present illness is
attributable to naval service, it would have be proposed
to have the long matter examined on our account.
COPY
PAGE

Richard D. Bell
L.R. Office

Concu **THANK YOU** 22. VIII. 29

K.A.H.H. for M.D.G.

24.8.29

A draft reply is submitted.

ATTEMPT

L. Hand Spruce
26. VIII. 29

TO

Opposition.

COPY

6/9/29