

28th October, 1929.

Dear Mr. Longden,

DO

The Admiralty has considered your further letter of September 21st as to the discharge of Boy Edward Bennett. **NOT** In particular the medical evidence contained in that letter.

The complete medical evidence available is, accordingly, that the Boy has been under treatment since 1926 for nervous debility, Aphonia (probably hysterical), growth of big toe nail, boils and neurasthenia. The Royal Naval Barracks at Shotley reported on him when **TO** serving in the Navy that he was under observation, both in hospital and on the school attending list, practically the whole time he was there. He attended the Sick Bay with minor or imaginary complaints almost daily. **COPY** His Divisional Officer and also the Schoolmaster stated that he was of sub-normal mental development.

THIS

F. Longden, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Westminster,
S.W.1.

The

PAGE

DO

The slight weakness of the left leg muscles was noted at Chatham and the boy claimed as a disability "Toe hurts when walking. Born with it". His gait on discharge was normal. If it is the case that he arrived home with loss of voice and a cripple, it suggests **NOT** that these disabilities were of functional origin as is suggested by his medical record since leaving the Navy. **ATTEMPT**

In these circumstances the Admiralty fail to see that any evidence has been adduced that this boy's nervous condition should be accepted as being attributable to his training service. **TO**

Careful consideration of all the evidence suggests on the contrary that it was present prior to his entering the Service, and this was the opinion of the Board of Survey. **COPY**

I am to **THIS** unless attributability to the Service is accepted no award of pension or compensation is permissible under the Regulations.

PAGE very truly,

(194) *H. H. Morrison*
Private Secretary.

26/29.

29th April, 1930.

DO

The Admiralty have considered the further
NOT medical evidence in the case of Boy Edward Bennett,
 which accompanied your letter of the 1st of April,
 but can find no reason to modify their opinion that
ATTEMPT his illness is not attributable to the Service.

That he was found medically fit on entry
 means only that no evidence was found at the time
 of any disability **TO** sufficient to cause rejection and
 could not mean that he was incapable of developing
 any form of disease in the ordinary course of life.
COPY Nor is the absence of evidence of nervous
 inheritance any evidence that his disability is
 attributable to the Service.

THIS

W. Hall

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F. Longden, Esq., M.P.,
 House of Commons,
 Westminster,
 S.W. 1.

PLEASE

Archieb. C.

DO

April 14th

1930.

The Civil List of

the Admiralty

NOT

Re Mr. Hall
ATTEMPT

has forwarded to me the result
of his enquiry **TO** into the conditions
and antecedents of the hon.
Edmund Bennett **COPY** Capt of the
Naval School of Greenwich.

The hon entered
the Navy in **THIS** splendid physical
fitness. He is now much of a
man; and the Doctor can find
no trace of **PAGE** that might
suggest that the hon has inherited
his trouble.

Very truly yours,
Fred Douglas

The Doctor's Report

THANK YOU

Would you please remark on the case further, in view of the medical report now enclosed?

J.A. Phillips
Hd of M
3/4/30

ATTEMPT

M.D.G.



The medical report confirms the opinion expressed in M.D.G's. minute of 1/10/29 that the loss of voice noted when this boy arrived home was of hysterical origin. It is noted that since discharge he has developed a paresis of the left arm: this condition was not present when he left Chatham.

The fact that he was found medically fit on entry could not imply that he was free from developing any form of disease but only that no evidence was found at the time of any disability sufficient to cause rejection. The inference that because there is no evidence of nervous inheritance, this boy's disability is necessarily attributable to his service, cannot be accepted.

TO
COPY
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It is not considered that the opinion of the Board of Survey that his disability was one that had developed in the ordinary course of life, should be varied.

NOT

KAMC

MEDICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL .
12/4/30.

ATTEMPT

Submitted to maintain the decision that

no compensation is payable. A draft letter is enclosed.

TO

*Richard D. K...
L...
16. IV-30*

COPY

Propose to approve

THIS

11.4.30

PAGE