

excellent and victorious service in time of any declaration of War by the Congress and its President. We as honorable discharged war veterans, have a record of service to the Nation that entitles us to something in case of adversity that is a step above what is awarded to the needy without regard to any services they ever rendered or to any debt of their society to them. Insurance policies, savings deposits and Government bonds are being drained from the life savings of those who had practiced thrift and prudence. The lifelong restraint on which they are based are being turned into paupers by the high cost of living during retirement and advanced age. Those who had gambled and squandered and borrowed and lived beyond their means are better taken care of and better treated than the thrifty living, so-called middle class.

Many veterans of World War One cannot prove service-connected disabilities despite being in the front lines for seven months without relief. There were no records kept at the combat lines. No sick calls, no reporting to medical officers for attention; no medical supply or material along the front lines of combat. The conditions of suffering, the hardships and the exhaustion of night and day fighting for weeks at a time on the battlefields were never recorded on the soldier's service record. He believed the promise of his Country, that whatever happened, he would be the Nation's first concern and care. He wonders if these pledges are to be honored.

FACTS ON COST OF WORLD WAR I—1917-19

Direct cost was over \$22 billion or equal to the entire cost to run the U.S. Government from 1791 up to the outbreak of World War One. Our expenditures in WW I were sufficient to have carried on the Revolutionary War, continuously for more than 1000 years at the rate of expenditures which that War actually involved.

In addition to this huge expenditure Congress authorized to be loaned to Allies Ten Billion Dollars by the United States, and this enormous sum has never been repaid.

The Army expenditures were over 14 billions or nearly two-thirds of our total War costs, which were over 22 billion dollars.

During the first three months our War expenditures were at the rate of two million dollars per day. During the next year they averaged more than 22 million dollars a day. The final ten months, the daily average was the enormous sum of 44 million dollars.

Two out of every three U.S. soldiers who reached France, took part in Battle. The number who reached France was 2,034,000 and of these 1,390,000 saw active service in the front lines. Reported 50,280 killed; 205,690 wounded. During the year 1918 about 30 percent of all our battle casualties were due to gas. It is evident that gas was a powerful weapon. During the entire war to May 1, 1919 a total of only 2,328 cases of typhoid fever had been reported and only 227 deaths from this cause.

Moreover, the records of desertions from the Army shows that the total was smaller than in previous wars, and a smaller percentage occurred among drafted men than among those who had volunteered.

There were 481,175 original disability awards to June 30, 1929.

The first registration for draft, June 5, 1917, covered the ages 21 to 31 on that date, and the second drafted was a year later for those that reached 21 years during the year to June 5, 1918. A total of 2,666,867 were inducted into service as able body men from the two drafts. The third draft effective after Gen. Pershing's cablegram for more men inducted 120,157, with 23,272 from islands, for a total 2,810,296.

TRUE FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE COST OF THE ADJUSTED CERTIFICATE PAYMENT TO VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I

This was a salary adjustment entered into by Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, William Gibbs McAdoo and Congress at a Congressional Hearing on the question of salary for the fighting forces, held in August 1917.

After the hostilities ceased, the U.S. Congress refused to abide by this agreement. A bitter fight resulted before the veterans won with the enactment of Public Law No. 120, approved by the 68th Congress, May 19, 1924. It was passed over the President's veto. The certificates dated January 1, 1925, to be due and payable after twenty years. The \$60 handed to the soldiers upon discharge to buy civilian clothes was deducted from the certificates. The veterans that par-