

# Calendar No. 357

72D CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 338

## WILLARD HENRY AMLAW

FEBRUARY 24 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 26), 1932.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GEORGE, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 1879]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1879) granting compensation to Willard Henry Amlaw, having considered the same, report it back to the Senate and recommend that the bill do not pass.

Mr. Amlaw is a veteran of the World War. He filed his claim for compensation under section 202 of the World War veterans' act, 1924, as amended. His claim was adjudicated by the Veterans' Administration. No evidence has been brought to the attention of the Committee except the report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, which is as follows:

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION,  
Washington, January 8, 1932.

Hon. REED SMOOT,  
Chairman Committee on Finance, United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR SMOOT: This is in response to your letter of December 29, 1931, with which you forwarded for report a copy of S. 1879, Seventy-second Congress, a bill granting compensation to Willard Henry Amlaw.

A review of the veteran's case file shows that he enlisted May 26, 1905, when there was noted "operation for hemorrhoids, August, 1898." He was treated in service for acute bronchitis, acute pharyngitis, acute diarrhea, and dyspepsia. The veteran was honorably discharged on January 5, 1908. He reenlisted on April 26, 1917, with the following defects noted: "Corns on both fifth toes; hypaspedius feet; septum spur, left, and pharyngitis. Treatment was rendered during this enlistment for bronchitis, acute, catarrhal, and influenza. He was honorably discharged July 29, 1919, without disability. He reenlisted January 19, 1921, when there was noted: "Kyphosis marked; external hemorrhoids; claw toes 3, 4, and 5, bilateral; septum deflected and two teeth missing."

He was treated during this period of service for chronic alcoholism, not in line of duty; herpes zoster left side of neck. A board of officers found the soldier unfit for service because of chronic alcoholism, the result of heavy regular drinking of intoxicating liquor, which existed prior to enlistment. The soldier was discharged on account of this condition on January 12, 1923, under the provisions of paragraph 148½, Army Regulations, as amended.

Application for compensation was filed November 14, 1924, on account of nervousness stated to have begun in September, 1919, caused by flu in France. Bureau examination reports diagnose the veteran's disabilities as cerebral and general arteriosclerosis, with marked deterioration and chronic alcoholism.

Service connection was formally established and compensation paid for the disability resulting from arteriosclerosis, but this action was reversed and the condition held to be the result of chronic alcoholism due to willful misconduct. This action was last confirmed by the council on appeals August 14, 1930. Compensation payments were terminated effective after the month of February, 1928. No disability allowance benefits are payable in view of the foregoing decision.

This case would present no greater merit than many others under the circumstances stated in the preceding paragraph. It is, as you probably know, against the policy of the Veterans' Administration to recommend special legislation, except where administrative error or legal technicality has worked detriment or disadvantage to the person in whose favor legislation is suggested.

A copy of this letter is inclosed for your use.

Very truly yours,

FRANK T. HINES, *Administrator.*

