

(EXAMINING SURGEON'S VOUCHER.)

(3-100.)

TO THE EXAMINING SURGEON.

The claimant named on the outside of this circular has been directed to report himself to you for examination within three months of the date hereof, when the validity of the order will cease.

Should he present himself, please examine him and make your report to this Bureau at once, in accordance with the instructions of the pamphlet already transmitted to you.

A particular description of the disability as it now exists, and a separate rating where more than one cause is found, must be given; and it must be clearly set forth in what form or manner, and from what probable causes, an increased disability, if any, has resulted.

You will use the following distinctive terms to designate the degrees of disability, viz:

1. Claimants so disabled as to "require the regular presence, aid, and attendance of another person," are entitled to a *First Grade* rating.
2. Those so disabled as to be unfitted for "the performance of any manual labor," to *Second Grade*.
3. Those who suffer a disability "equivalent" to the loss of a hand or foot, to *Third Grade*.
4. The surgeon should certify to the fact, only, in each of the following disabilities: The loss of a hand or foot; of both hands or feet; of sight of both eyes; of one eye, the sight of the other having been previously lost; of arm *at* or above elbow; of leg *at* or above knee; of leg by amputation at hip joint; of arm by amputation at shoulder joint; of hearing of both ears so that subject is compelled to use artificial aid.
5. When claimant is totally and permanently disabled in both a hand and a foot, the surgeon should certify to the fact, and explain *why* it is he is so disabled.
6. When disability falls below above-named grades, the ground of comparison should be ankylosis of wrist or ankle, and disabilities should be rated accordingly.
7. When disability is *greater* than that caused by ankylosis of wrist or ankle joint, and *less* than that caused by loss of hand or foot, the latter disability is taken as a basis of comparison.
8. The *Third* is the only grade subject to fractional divisions.
9. The lowest degree of disability pensionable is $\frac{1}{4}$.

The surgeon may inform the claimant of the result of the examination, as to whether or not in his judgment there is any pensionable disability, BUT IN NO CASE SHOULD HE COMMUNICATE HIS OPINION TOUCHING THE DEGREE OF DISABILITY—THAT IS TO SAY, THE SURGEON MUST NOT STATE HIS RATING TO THE CLAIMANT.

NOTICE.—This Circular must be returned to this Bureau with your certificate of examination, accompanied by your daily account, or in the event of the person named in it failing to report within the specified time, return it indorsed as follows: "Claimant failed to appear within the specified time."