

By Mr. Brooks:

Q. On page 3 of the brief, half way down, it says:

There is also the possibility that assistance may be denied in some legitimate cases.

I wonder if Dean Anderson would care to enlarge on that?—A. With your permission I have the Director of Service Bureau here who deals with more specific cases. With your permission I would ask him to give you the information on that point.

Mr. D. M. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the point there I think is that although the man may be able to have his allowance supplemented by the assistance fund from the \$108 to \$120, as was referred to earlier in our brief; there is the fact that the man must initially be on the \$108 a month basis. He must then on his own make application for the additional assistance from the assistance fund. That must be then investigated, reviewed, and there is always, no matter how conscientious the departmental officials may be, a certain time lapse before the case is fully investigated, and the assistance fund put into operation. The point there is that we feel that during that lapsed period the man is getting \$108 instead of \$120, and upon subsequent investigation where the need is proven and the maximum of \$120 is granted.

Mr. FORGIE: The word "denied" surely is improperly used there. It is not a denial of the rights.

The CHAIRMAN: The suggestion is you were saying that it will be delayed and in the brief it says denied.

Mr. THOMPSON: There is a certain amount of discretion left to the people administering the assistance fund and it is quite within the realm of possibility that there can be legitimate cases which will be denied which may be subsequently reconsidered and granted. But, I think the records will probably show under the present assistance fund that there have been cases denied and on subsequent reconsideration granted.

Mr. BROOKS: They are subject to a means test?

Mr. THOMPSON: There is a means test and other procedure to be followed during which time they do not have the benefit of that additional money.

Mr. GREEN: Is there a regular form of application which must be made for this assistance?

Mr. THOMPSON: Actually the departmental officers could give you the full details, but I understand the man must ask for the supplementary assistance and then, I believe, there is a form. The department has a formula by which the man's circumstances are compared to see if he merits assistance. They do have a definite procedure and a definite investigation.

Mr. GREEN: I wonder if the departmental officers could let us see a copy of the application form which has to be completed by the veteran? I wonder whether, Mr. Chairman, one of the officers could let us see a copy of the application?

The CHAIRMAN: We shall have it before us at the meeting on Monday.

Mr. GREEN: Do I understand you to say, Mr. Thompson, that no assistance could be given unless a man was in receipt of the full war veterans allowance.

Mr. THOMPSON: He must be receiving the maximum war veterans allowance. They cannot help him beyond the total permissible income.

Mr. GREEN: Suppose he has a certain amount of income over \$10 with the result that he does not get the full war veterans allowance. Is he then entitled to any assistance through the fund?